The New-York Times.

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MERRY CHRISTMAS.

How the Joyous Anniversary Will be Observed.

Preparations for Feasting Among Rich and Poor.

Services in the Churches in the Morning.

Festivities in the Afternoon and Evening.

Liberal Provision at the Charitable Institutions.

Observance of the Day in Other Places.

So many kindly thoughts, so much written charity, and such true religion have sanctified these previous days preceding the actual day we celebrate, and have associated with its remembrance throughout the year, that Christmas scarcely needs the Festivals who usher them that their great festival is not of Christmas origin, but dates back over traditions and Aryan times. We think, too, that the desire of rejoicing observed throughout Christendom at this season, prevented among the white races long before the birth of Jesus the favor of mankind. He has it literally owed among them Isis-Horus, great people who have not been overcome by Bethlehem. In India, not only in Hindostan, but throughout the Deccan and the Carnatic, and among Tamu Malayan, lying on the shores of the Mahanaim, in Cape Comorin, backed in the South-eastern Africa to a race, town or village which is not now celebrating the great festival of the Dessera, which commences with the 21st day of December, and lasts all the month, commencing the short-est day, the musical commencement of the year. It lasts for twelve days, and is marked by the immediately thereof charity which distinguishes our Christmas begging. The great occasion is the Sunna or anthrop, during which, from sunrise to sunset, the most absolute license is permitted to domestics, and to the poor. The most squalid Indian can sleep on the back the poor Man, Malayan, and can entreat, without fear of refusal, the most sanctified Brahmin to cut carrots, but not to accept the specially rich food and sweetmeats prepared for the day. In the fanaes all kinds of tricks are performed by servants upon their masters, and are offered with impunity, and even compliments. The houses of the wealthy are thrown open, even to Europeans, and the guests are treated with otter of roses, sweetmeats and betel-nut, and on departing are sprinkled with fragrant rose water. The great chiefs, who still retain a nominal independence, expend enormous sums at these festivals, in feasts of wild beasts and exhibitions of athletes. The most famous performances of this nature are given at Baroda, by the powerful Mahratta Sovereign known as the Guicowar. The resemblance to the Saturnalia of the Romans is too obvious to need comment, and, indeed, it is now universally conceded that the Hindoos and the Romans possessed a common ancestry, from whom, among other things, they both derived the Winter festivals.

It is a gracious and consoling reflection that the Savior of man should have been born to bless the world at a time when all hearts were opened by the peculiar sentiments of the season. No doubt that in that auspicious year when the star of Bethlehem shone in the oriental sky, the Jews, who had been more than partially Hellenized, were keeping high festival in company with their Greek teachers and their Roman conquerors. In that warm climate it is impossible to pasture the sheep in the Summer time, for the sterile and rocky soil is parched with drouth. In the Winter, when juicy herbage covers the slopes of the hills, and the coming harvest of showers wakes and ruffles on the plain, the sheep are pastured for many months without molestation to the fold. They run from plain to plain and from hill to hill, under the care of shepherds very different from the fantastic creations of Arcadia and from the beauties of Virgil. They are watched by stalwart and bearded men, lance in hand and sword by side, to preserve them from the attacks of the nomadic Turcoman who have never been rooted out of Asia. In the still solemnity of the night season, far away from that hum of great cities which is as ceaseless as the murmur of the all-covered sea, these men contemplate their flocks nibbling the short sweet grass. The stars, so bright in climes blessed by the sun, and untainted by the smoke of countless chimneys, poem very close, and the whole soul is impressible with ideas of beauty and sublimity. From such scenes as this in old Chaldea arose that poetic science of astronomy, which has so greatly enlarged and expanded the human intellect. On such a scene as this, and to men whose minds were attuned to the supernatural and full of the sweetness of silent beauty, there came the most glorious vision that the world has ever seen, one so supreme that the pencil of no painter has ever attempted to portray its splendors. There came upon the blackness of the sky blotting out the wild fire of the stars, a glorious company of angels singing of a new bond between earth and heaven, a new tie between man and God. They sang in strains whose beauty could never be forgotten, and whose sweetness must have haunted the hearers ever after, "Glory to God in the highest, peace on earth and good-will toward man." And the promise has been truly kept. Never has the rich man at this season forgotten the poor man. Never has the spirit of love departed from this auspicious time, never have human hearts utterly closed on this day. The poor man becomes contented, the rich man becomes humble, the proud man becomes genial, the avaricious man becomes generous. There is a psychical influence born of the infinite, and reflected from human heart to human heart in waves of feeling, which makes men now what they should be always, and perhaps, may be in the future habitually. It is the light of Paradise, which streams from the gates opened but for a day, which shines upon us and blesses us as we go.

Christmas in the Churches.

Morning services at Trinity will commence at 9½ o'clock, and the grand service at 11. Rev. Dr. OGILBY, Rev. GEORGE FERGUSON, and Rev. Mr. KEMBLE will officiate at both services, and Rev. Dr. DIX will deliver the sermon. The musical programme will be as follows: Processional Hymn 47, ancient and modern; Introit, Hymn 49, ancient and modern; H. G. THUNDER, Kyrie, Second Mass; MOZART. Nicene Creed, Second Mass; MOZART. Twelfth Mass; MOZART. "He is blessed who cometh in the name of the Lord; Hosanna in the highest." Sanctus Cerda; TALLIS. Sanctus, Second Mass; MOZART. Agnus Dei, Second Mass; MOZART. "Gloria in Excelsis," Second Mass; MOZART. Nunc Dimittis; Recessional Hymn 43, ancient and modern; "Hark, the Herald Angels Sing." Even Song—Processional Hymn 48, ancient and modern; Cantate, chant; Benedic, chant; Recessional Hymn 48, ancient and modern.

ST. PAUL'S CHAPEL.

The chapel is decorated in the usual manner, the panels of the ceiling, the organ chamber, the pulpit and the lectern being twined with evergreens. The fluting of the columns and their bases and capitals are decorated with holly. The services will include a Christmas anthem, the choir being reinforced for the occasion.

ST. THOMAS' CHURCH.

This beautiful ecclesiastical edifice affords remarkable opportunities of decoration for the adornment of its consecration, the cross being standard. The morning service will be performed by Rev. Dr. MONSON, and the music will be specially beautiful. The organ will be assisted by two harps.

ST. JOHN'S CHAPEL.

St. John's Chapel is not unusually decorated, though spacious enough, are the only material used. The altar is dressed with flowers. In addition to the usual choral services grand anthems will be given.

ST. ANN'S.

At this little edifice the services will commence at an early hour and last nearly through the day. The church is prettily decorated with evergreens, and the chancel has been almost covered with flowers. The musical selections performed will be choice and varied.

CHRIST CHURCH.

The Christmas arrangements at Christ Church, on Fifth avenue, are unusually elaborate and impressive. The church will be beautifully decorated, and the chancel especially will be profusely ornamented with flowers and evergreens. Christ Church has been distinguished, of late, for the peculiar style of its music, and this will be amply illustrated on the occasion of the festival. The following programme, for Christmas morning, has been furnished by Dr. GUTTON, organist of Christ Church: Processional, "O Come, all ye Faithful." Venite and psalms to Anglican chants, from CUTLER'S *Trinity Psalter*, Te Deum by CAWOOD, Anthem, "Glory to God on High and on Earth Peace," &c., from MOZART'S Twelfth Mass, by a full chorus of fifty voices. Hymn, "Shout the Glad Tidings." After service the hymn will be, "Hark, the Herald Angels Sing." The Right Rev. Dr. POTTER, Bishop of the diocese, will officiate in the morning, and Rev. Dr. THOMPSON, of Chicago, will preach, both being supported by Rev. Mr. DURHAM, assistant rector of the parish.

CHURCH OF THE INCARNATION.

The Christmas music at this church will be unusually attractive. The selections are from BOOK, MILLARD, BERGE, GUETNER, &c., &c. The choir consists of Mme. SARRITE, soprano; Miss BULLEST, contralto; Mr. ROMANER, tenor; Mr. RUMBRETE, bass, assisted by other voices, the whole under the direction of Mr. DODGE, organist, assisted by Mr. BAROCCK.

ST. TAMES' CHURCH.

The interior of St. James' Protestant Episcopal Church, in East Seventy-second-street, of which Rev. C. B. SMITH is rector and superintendent, has been beautifully decorated. On Christmas morning there will be a children's carol, and on Tuesday evening there will be a Christmas tree festival for the children connected with the Sunday-school.

HOLY TRINITY OF HARLEM.

At the Holy Trinity Church, Harlem, of which Rev. W. NELSON MCVICKAR is rector, services will commence at 10½ A. M. The musical service will include a pastoral symphony on the organ, "There Were Shepherds," (solo from the Messiah,) chorus, "Glory to God;" anthem, "Behold a Virgin," and chorus, "O Thou that Tellest," (from the Messiah;) hymn, "Hark, the Herald Angels;" the hallelujah chorus and hymn No. 149. In the grand chorus from the Messiah the choir will be assisted by a large number of ladies and gentlemen of the congregation, and others, who have volunteered their aid. The choir consists of Miss ROBINO FARRELL, soprano; Miss EMMA HUBIN, alto; Mr. W. H. TEMPLEMAN, tenor; Mr. R. R. ALMY, bass. Mr. GEO. F. BRISTOW is organist.

ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCHES.

Extensive preparations have been made for Christmas at all the Roman Catholic churches. The Cathedral in Mulberry-street presents a really magnificent appearance, holly, mistletoe, laurel and other evergreens being used in its decoration. The services will, of course, commence with high mass, and will be closed by the Archbishop's pontifical service.

At St. Peter's, in Barclay-street, a beautiful cross of flowers has been placed over the tabernacle, and on the altar of the Blessed Virgin will appear a figure of the infant Christ lying in a manger. The entire edifice has been decorated with evergreens. High mass will be celebrated by Rev. Father QUINN.

CHRISTMAS MUSICAL FORTE.

The "Messiah" is to be sung in Newark on Christmas night, at St. Paul's Methodist Episcopal Church. The oratorio will have the excellent support of Miss. ANNA DRNOP, assisted by Messrs. SIMPSON and THOMAS. No doubt the music-loving and devotional public of Newark will come out in force on this occasion. They will certainly enjoy a most worthy performance.

CHARITABLE INSTITUTIONS, &C.

The poor and the unfortunate will not be forgotten today, and the warmth of Christian feeling will even penetrate through prison bars to the guilty. The inmates of Ludlow-street Jail will dine with the warden, who will spread at his own expense a fair long table covered with turkeys, venison, beef, pies, pudding, fruits and vegetables, with cigars and liquors. Mr. CONNOLLY will eat his Christmas fare in the same doleful place, if his declining health will permit him to eat anything. At the Five Points House of Industry the children will dine sumptuously at 1 o'clock. Turkeys and plum-pudding have been provided for them by some charitable hands who do good by stealth, and whose sole reward will be in the happiness of the children. The Emigrants' Refuge on Ward's Island, the Newsboys' Lodging-house, the Howard Mission and the Children's Aid Society, will all have sumptuous dinners for their inmates. In the various institutions of public charity the Commissioners have taken care that good Christmas fare shall not be lacking.

For the poor who have the brave spirit to refrain from public aid, whose bitter bread is too often moistened with tears, there have also been kindly thoughts and remembrance. The pastors of many of the City churches have made lists of their poor members, and obtained turkeys for them. Dr. OGILBY, of Trinity, supplied 200; Dr. MORAN, of St. Thomas, supplied 200 to the poor who live on the west side of town, within his spiritual bailiwick. Among his congregation, indeed, it would be difficult to find a poor man, for it is notorious the wealthiest and the most fashionable in the City. The rector of St. Bartholomew has also made provision for his poor, and has largely aided the institution of the Sheltering Arms. Dr. GALLAUDET, of St. Ann's, has kindly cared for the poor deaf mutes, to whom he has ever been as true a friend. In fact everywhere the clergy have been particularly active in securing food and fuel for those who would otherwise have gnawed hard crusts and lifted tearful eyes of sorrowful complaining to the Almighty. The Hoboken Ferry Company has distributed turkeys to its employes, and private merchants, with few exceptions, have done the same thing.

LADIES' UNION RELIEF ASSOCIATION.

Amid the numerous pleadings for remembrance and aid, which press from every quarter of our great City, at this season of gladness and general rejoicing, let it not be forgotten that the ladies of the Union Relief Association are still caring for the disabled soldiers and the widows and orphans of those who fell in the late war, and that unless prompt and generous assistance be given them they will be obliged at this time of national severity to turn helplessly away from the two hundred pensioners to whom they have already given relief. But the ladies feel confident that this cause which appeals so peculiarly to our people in their hour of happiness and prosperity, will not fail to receive the support it so richly deserves, and that, through the bounty of our generous and patriotic citizens, many straitened homes of sorrowing ones shall be gladdened, and many friendless little children and lonely widows be made partakers with those of happier lot in the blessed joys of the merry Christmas tide. The ladies of the United Relief also will be in attendance at the Twelfth-second Regiment Armory, Fourteenth-street, west of Sixth avenue, on Wednesday, Dec. 27, from 10 A. M., where donations will be thankfully received and promptly acknowledged.

PUBLIC OFFICES.

The Custom-house will be open for the transaction of important business, from 9 to 11 A. M. today, and the Post-office will be open early in the morning, closing at 10 A. M. The Appraiser's Department, Church-street, and the Sub-Treasury will both be closed.

Christmas Among the Germans.

Among the Germans Sunday was a busy day in making the final arrangements for Christmas Eve, which is the German family and children's festival. A feature of this is always the brilliantly illuminated Christmas tree, decorated with toys, confectionery and holiday gifts for the young. As the weather was delightful yesterday the principal thoroughfares on the east side, the Bowery, Division, Grand and Houston streets, and the avenues were crowded with persons, patronizing the shops where holiday goods were presented, which yesterday were kept open for the occasion. The places of amusement in the Bowery, the beer saloons and other public places, were almost everywhere decorated with Christmas trees, and many of these places were illuminated in the evening. The German churches, which were largely attended, were also tastefully adorned with Christmas trees, flowers and evergreens. Today the Christmas festivities among the Germans will assume a more public character. The numerous German vocal and musical societies and the Turner and Schwoerer organizations, have arranged special festivities at their head-quarters, including soirées, balls, the distribution of Christmas gifts, &c.

The New-York Maennerchor will give a soirée and ball this evening at the Club-house of the Lieder Verein, Forty-first-street and Third-avenue. The Beethoven Maennerchor will give a children's Christmas festival at its Club-house in Fifteenth-street, this afternoon, which will be followed by a ball.

The Turnverein of the west side will engage in Christmas festivities at the Turn Hall in Spring-street, which will include a drawing for Christmas gifts. The Swabian Saengerbund will give a Christmas soirée in the Walhalla in Orchard-street, which will also include a distribution of Christmas gifts. The Liederkranz will engage in Christmas festivities at their Hall on Fourth-street, to-morrow, comprising, among other entertainments, a children's festival and distribution of Christmas gifts in the afternoon.

The Rothschmerer Dramatic Society gave a highly entertaining dramatic entertainment last evening, which was followed by a ball, and at the Harmonie Rooms in Essex-street the Germania Maennerchor was engaged in a ball last night, which was well patronized.

Christmas Sermon by Rev. E. H. Chapin.

The Church of the Divine Paternity, corner of Fifth avenue and Forty-fifth street, was crowded to overflowing, yesterday morning, to hear the eloquent Dr. CHAPIN on an occasion which would be certain to draw from him his best effort—a Christmas sermon. Long before the opening hymn was sung, the aisles were crowded, and many were unable to obtain even standing room. Dr. CHAPIN selected his text from the first chapter of St. John, eighth verse, and began his discourse by drawing eloquent comparison between John the Baptist and the Savior. John was one sent before to prepare a way for the coming of the Redeemer. John was solitary. Jesus mingled with men. John with restless energy attacked the depravity of man and appealed them in their sin. Jesus blended benignity and sovereignty. Yet John came with an inspired mission to bear witness of the coming Light. The pastor then spoke of those who find in nature all the light they seek, and said that the sacredness of nature, or its holy office, could not be overestimated. Yet nature, with its harmonious laws, does not minister to that deep want implanted in every human heart. Lofty intellects might build up with cold and logical reasoning a shelter for their trust, yet after all nature is a broken reed, a hanging on the wind, a mere nude. Ah, there is something in man that only nature's God can satisfy. Willithat poor creature, stung with remorse, craving pardon, burdened with sorrow and seeking inward peace, be satisfied with the sight of the starlit dome of Nature or the breath of the night wind? The mother in her hour of agony needs something more than the cold reasonings of Nature, or the cold teachings of philosophy, when her dead child lies within her arms. She needs a light within her heart that will strengthen it in hope and faith of a life beyond the grave. Nature is not that light. Nature is not that mother's light. Nature testifies to Christianity by its very inconsistencies. It leads the human mind just far enough to want something more than it can give. If man lived the life of an animal, there would be no thought beyond the present. Nature is full of suggestions and the gospel of Christ meets these suggestions. Before the era of Christianity, nature stood like some great cathedral in the moonlight, cold, glittering and silent, and it only awoke when daylight came streaming through its windows, revealing its multitudes worshiping at its altar, and its texts written on the walls. Almost everybody admits Christ to have been a great teacher, and men have appeared from time to time who have seemed to be inspired of God. A great deal of lofty truth came from SOCRATES, ZOROASTER and PLATO. All, perhaps, were bright and particular stars in their own quarter, yet none could be called that great central Light at which to Jesus. The world had heard the tinkling of the bells, horses and chariots before Jesus came. They lay there like so many bones and fossils. Jesus came and breathed upon those bones and they rattled. The hard, dry, cold teachings became utterances that touched the human heart and thrilled it. None, however, possessed that comprehensive humanity embraced in the life of Jesus. It was something more than the blossoming of a mere human life. It was a life that was something more than cold teaching, for that word has illumined the hovels of the poor and has soothed the pillow of the dying. Dr. CHAPIN here touched upon the thoughts often expressed in the words that education and science tended to soar above the teachings of Christ, and declared that the more an earnest man became truly educated and refined the more he leaned on Christianity. The moral sense of man craves light, but it is the true light which streams from the cross of Christ. The eloquent pastor closed his sermon with an appeal to the congregation to open their hearts to the poor and the needy, and to make the season of "Merry Christmas" something more than a conventional period, to gather about them the testimonies of the Redeemer, to do good as He did, and in their lives bear witness to that light which came with healing on its wings.

Christmas Sermon by Rev. Dr. Thompson, of Chicago.

An Advent sermon was preached, yesterday morning, at Christ Church, by Rev. Dr. THOMPSON, of Chicago, who took for his text these words: "Watch ye, for ye know not when the master of the house cometh." The preacher said: The drama of this world seems at times to have no ending. If we look back on the story of the past, on the human suffering that has been endured, on the rise of nations, on the fall of empires and dynasties, we shall be able to trace the fact that human efforts have had but a limited and transitory success, and have sooner or later been engulfed by irredeemable failure. Yet all Christians have a conviction that our many failures have been ordained for some wise purpose, and that there is a beautiful divine philosophy which governs human life. But it is to-morrow that the Church solves the great problem of Christian philosophy. If we look back for centuries we shall see how God prepared the world for the first coming of Heaven; how that previous to his coming prosperity was the lot of some nations, while others were held in subjection and suffering, but still the universal and continual cry to heaven was—"Thy Kingdom Come."

Christmas Services in Brooklyn.

In many of the Unitarian churches and in some of those of the Episcopal denomination, special services were held last evening. In the Church of the Savior, on Pierrepont-street, Rev. A. J. PUTNAM preached in the evening, and the full musical Christmas service was rendered by the choir. At St. Paul's Episcopal Church, Flatbush, Bishop LITTLEJOHN preached in the evening. The churches are elaborately decorated with evergreens, and the usual Christmas tree is laden with gifts for the Sunday-school children. The services today will commence at St. Paul's Episcopal church at 10½ o'clock, and in many of them the musical portion will be very fine, extraordinary preparations having been made. At St. Peter's Roman Catholic Church, HAYDE'S Imperial Mass will be sung, assisted by a chorus of twenty-four voices from the New-York Church Music Association. MOZART'S Twelfth Mass will be sung at the Church of St. Charles Borromeo, (Roman Catholic,) assisted by a full chorus and orchestra engaged for the occasion.

Christmas in New-Jersey.

The day will be observed throughout New-Jersey by a general cessation of business, by the usual services in the churches, the accustomed festivities in homes, and such dinners, dances, and other social gatherings as the capacity of assembly rooms in the various cities and villages will warrant. Yesterday the services in the churches were of the usual character, except that last evening the musical exercises were more varied and ambitious. But in the Catholic churches held midnight mass, Bishop BAYLEY having counselled the decorations of the practice. In the Episcopal churches in Jersey City today, the choirs will sing from MOZART'S Twelfth Mass. In St. Mark's Church, the "Processional" will be one of the features of the service. In the Newark Catholic Cathedral, some statuary will be unveiled.

CHRISTMAS EVE.

A Quiet Time Generally—German Festivities.

The evening before Christmas has been an occasion of rejoicing hardly less important than Christmas Day itself. In mediæval times, indeed, it was pre-eminently the festival, and was honored with many special games, with extraordinary beverages and all kinds of fantastic customs. It was known as Yule, and the bringing home of the huge mass of wood called the Yule log, was a most important affair. The boar's head was served with special garnishing and the cups were filled with rich spiced and sweet mediglin for those who had dainty palates and with sweet brown ale for the hearty yeomen and knightly drinkers of the days of old. Then was the mistletoe bough, a solemn institution, which no maiden would scorn, and no young man would neglect. The fact that this year Christmas Eve fell upon Sunday rather damped the usual festivities among the American families of the City, but among the Germans that made no difference, and the Christmas tree reared its stately head and spread its gift-laden branches as if the day had not been consecrated to the service of the Lord. The stores on the Bowery were also open, and the shooting-rooms, where Tenton sportsmen aim at targets of fantastic shapes for three cents a shot, did a great business. The stores on Holiday-street were also open, and were thronged with eager purchasers.

THE NEWSBOYS' CHRISTMAS EVE.

The Irvington-street Lodging-house has the reputation among the newsboys of doing up things in grand style about Christmas and New-Year's times, and so the institution is filled at present to its utmost capacity.

The Christmas services last night were exceedingly interesting, and participated in by the boys with much earnestness and decorum.

The exercises were conducted by EDWARD POTTER and JOHN CROSBY BROWN, Esqs., who gave the boys some valuable instruction regarding the joyful day, and showed them that all our blessings and dearest hopes spring from the Babe of Bethlehem. The singing, in which the boys heartily joined, was ably conducted by Miss PHILLIPS and Mr. M. DUPUY.

THE WEATHER.

Synopsis and Probabilities.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Dec. 25—1 A. M.—The barometer has risen since Saturday night throughout the Atlantic States and on the lower lakes, and clear and partially cloudy weather has prevailed during Sunday east of the Mississippi, but threatening weather is now reported from Lakes Erie and Michigan, attending upon a small area of low pressure, which has advanced north-eastward to Lake Huron. Rising barometer and clear weather, with falling temperature, is reported from the North-western States. Clear weather and light winds on the Gulf coast. No reports have been received from the Pacific stations.

PROBABILITIES.

Clear and mild weather is probable for Monday throughout the Gulf, Southern and Middle states, while an barometer on the lower lakes move north eastward, and the cloudy weather in New-York and New-England very generally clear away during the day; rising barometer and clear, cold weather prevail from Missouri to Michigan and north-westward.

Dangerous winds are not anticipated for to-night.

TELEGRAPHIC BREVITIES.

BRIGHAM YOUNG is expected at Salt Lake next week.

The Potomac River is now open to navigation to Aquia Creek.

There was a heavy southerly gale, with rain, on Saturday night, at Halifax.

A heavy gale visited Buffalo on Saturday night, doing considerable damage to buildings.

The warm south wind and rain of Saturday cleared the ground at Buffalo entirely of snow.

The Health Officer of Philadelphia reports 226 deaths from small-pox for the week. This is a slight increase over last week.

The late snow-storm in the West was very severe, and extended through the mountains to the Pacific coast.

A London dispatch dated noon, yesterday, says: The Prince of WALES passed a quiet night. He is gradually regaining his strength.

The Chicago Police think they have the clue to a Rosenwald-Bowlsby case. They regard it of such importance as to maintain secrecy as to the facts.

CHARLES CROUSE, convicted a year ago of murder in the second degree, in Montgomery County, Pennsylvania, and sentenced to eleven years' confinement, hanged himself in jail yesterday.

The Robinson murder examination at Salt Lake closed on Saturday afternoon. HAMPTON, TOMS and BLYTHE were committed to await the action of the Grand Jury, and the others were discharged.

The snow is ten feet deep on a level in Little Cotton-wood mining district, Utah, and it is still snowing. Freighting ore from the mines is nearly suspended. The sun has not been seen for a week.

By the explosion of the railway locomotive "Baltic," on Saturday, in Northfield, Conn., only the engineer, E. S. COLLINS, formerly of Pittsfield, Mass., was killed. The fireman, VOGHT, was not killed, as first reported, though he was severely injured.

The steamer *Alpha* returned to Halifax, N. S., on Thursday night, from St. Thomas, bringing back passengers and freight. In consequence of a report that the cholera prevailed at Halifax, the St. Thomas authorities refused to allow them to land.

The gale on Saturday at Toledo, Ohio, was one of the most severe ever experienced in that locality. The telegraph lines were prostrated and considerable damage was done to roofs. The spire of the First Baptist Church was blown down, falling upon and partially crushing an adjoining dwelling.

A very heavy gale swept over Springfield, Ill., on Saturday. It blew down an immense skating rink and the new rolling-mills of the Springfield Iron Company, and entirely destroyed the round-house of the Gilman, Clinton and Springfield Railroad, besides tearing off several roofs, toppling over chimneys, levelling fences, &c. The loss cannot be less than $50,000.

A violent wind-storm prevailed in Indiana all Saturday afternoon, doing considerable damage to buildings in Indianapolis. A portion of the roof of St. John's Cathedral was crushed by the falling of the upper part of one of the front towers. At Lafayette, a large number of buildings were unroofed, including the Second National Bank building, Post-office, and telegraph buildings. Several persons were injured.

THE KUKLUX TRIALS.

Present State of the Cases in the United States Court at Columbia, South Carolina.

From the Columbia Phœnix, Dec. 22.

Messrs. JOHNSON and STANBERY, having done their work, will leave our city today. On two questions which were raised by Messrs. JOHNSON and STANBERY, the Judges of the Court—Judge BOND and Judge BRYAN—stood opposed in opinion. The first and most important one is: Whether the Court has jurisdiction under the act of 1870 to try not only conspiracies against the right of suffrage, and to punish them, according to the provisions of that act, with fine and imprisonment provided in case of such conspiracies, but whether, as provided in the act, they can also try persons accused for any other felony, and punish them for such other felony with the penalties of punishment provided for such offenses by the laws of South Carolina. In many of the cases the parties charged with the conspiracy against the suffrage were also charged with other offenses, such as burglary and murder, committed at the same time, but independent of and not in furtherance of the conspiracy itself. The question whether that section of the act which authorizes such jurisdiction is constitutional, has been certified on a division of opinion to the Supreme Court of the United States for its decision.

The other question, which has likewise been certified to the Supreme Court on a division of opinion, arises upon indictments in which conspirators are charged against the right to keep and bear arms, and the question there is: Whether jurisdiction to try a conspiracy against the exercise of that right is vested in the Courts of the United States.

Of the two questions so certified, the first is, in all respects, the most grave and important. If it had happened that the Judges had been united in the opinion that they had jurisdiction to try the cases of murder, as to which numerous parties stand charged, then nothing would have been left to them but to be satisfied in the consciousness of such a verdict as might have been rendered against them.

There are yet one or two questions, raised by Messrs. JOHNSON and STANBERY, on which the opinion of the Court has not yet been delivered. One relates to the right of peremptory challenge, and the other, and the most important of the two, is the question of the right of the parties convicted of conspiracy against the suffrage are to be punished. Messrs. JOHNSON and STANBERY claim that the punishment for that offense is fixed by the fourth section of the act as a misdemeanor, for which the imprisonment cannot exceed one year in while, on the other hand, the Government is of opinion that the imprisonment is fixed by the sixth section of the act as a felony, and in which the term of imprisonment may extend to ten years. We shall await anxiously to hear whether, upon these points, the Judges are united or divided in opinion.

It is proper to add that the only mode in which any question can be brought from the Circuit to the Supreme Court of the United States, is upon a division of opinion between the Judges. That is the rule in all criminal cases, for in such cases no appeal or writ of error can be taken to the Supreme Court of the United States.

We understand that the questions which have been or may be certified to the Supreme Court will be decided by that tribunal at an early day of the present term of that Court, and that Messrs. JOHNSON and STANBERY will repair to Washington to argue them before that tribunal. In the meantime, further proceedings in all those cases involving the disputed questions will be suspended until the decision of the Supreme Court is announced.

Another Verdict of Guilty.

COLUMBIA, S. C., Dec. 24.—In the United States Court, yesterday, the jury, in the case of MITCHELL and WHITSONS, after nearly twenty-four hours' consultation, returned a verdict of guilty on the second and fourth counts. The defense moved for a new trial. The Court then took a recess till Wednesday next.

Railroad Accident—Narrow Escape.

BOSTON, Dec. 24.—The steam-boat train on the Hartford and Erie Railroad met with a serious accident this afternoon. The train was thirteen hours late owing to the storm. When near East Douglass the engine struck a large rock which had been washed on to the centre of the track, breaking the cow-catcher in two, breaking the axle of the tender, and smashing every brake of the train. The train consisted of a baggage car, smoking and passenger car, which fortunately was not thrown from the track. Where the accident happened the embankment was full thirty feet high, and if the train had gone off serious loss of life would probably have resulted. A new train was made up at Blackstone, arriving at Boston at 7½ in the evening.

Suicide of a Wisconsin Sheriff in St. Louis—A Curious Letter.

ST. LOUIS, Mo., Dec. 23.—A man named M. B. PIERCE, who, it seems, was a Sheriff of Fon du Lac County, Wisconsin, was found dead in his bedroom at the Union Hotel here today, with a pistol-shot wound in his left breast, and a pistol lying on the floor. A letter to the landlady of the hotel says: "Do as you please with my remains, but my wish is that you take my effects, and by their sale realize enough to get me covered up under snow and frost. My effects will cancel all expenditures, for all I want is a box and hole. I am Sheriff of Fon du Lac County, Wisconsin, and want to be buried before you communicate with my friends. My reason for doing this is the business of nobody but myself." Another letter addressed to his deputy, ROBERT COSGROVE, desires the latter to settle his affairs as best he can, and to do all for his "wife and babies" possible. A letter from his wife refers to, some matters from which it is inferred that PIERCE was in pecuniary trouble, in consequence of which he may have left home. He had been here since the 9th inst. Only sixty cents were found among his effects.

Lynching of Desperadoes in Missouri—One Confesses the Murder of Eleven Men.

ST. LOUIS, Dec. 24.—Further particulars have been received of the lynching of two desperadoes near Seneca, Neosho County, Mo. Last week it appears LOUIS SWINK and another desperado, known as Texas JOE, alias Buckskin, induced a German named HENRY SALEMAN to go about two miles from Prairie City to get some whisky they had secreted. After getting out of the town they assaulted him with clubs, and left him for dead, after robbing him of $25 and a watch. SALEMAN recovered sufficiently to crawl back to the town, and reported the affair. SWINK was arrested at Seneca, by the Vigilance Committee. BUCKSKIN was subsequently captured after being shot three times. Both were hanged to a tree. Before the execution BUCKSKIN confessed to having murdered eleven men during the past year, and the total booty obtained was only $60.

Archbishop McCloskey Not Made Cardinal.

Archbishop MCCLOSKEY, yesterday expressed his surprise at the dispatch from Rome which appeared in yesterday morning's papers to the effect that at a recent consistory held in that city he had been elevated to the Cardinalate. He said that there is not the slightest foundation for the statement, and that there is no truth whatever in it.

Marine Disaster—Seamen Badly Frozen.

PORTLAND, Me., Dec. 24.—The schooner *Sparkle*, Smith, from Dennisville, for New-York, arrived here to-night, bringing the crew of the schooner *Fanny E. Rogers*, of Boston, who were taken off twenty-five miles north-east of Cape Cod on the morning of the 22d—the vessel having filled with water on the 21st. The mate and cook were badly frozen.

A Reformed Democrat and his Guests Poisoned in Kentucky.

Mr. B. WILDER writes from Whitley Court-house, Kentucky, to the Louisville *Commercial* as follows, under date of Dec. 12:

"A very sad calamity befell our quiet little town a few days since. PLEASANT KERNS, an old citizen of Democratic proclivities, after the exposé of the New-York swindle and the defeat of the Democracy in that state, gave a dinner, and invited several of his Republican friends to dine with him and talk over the past—but all past differences over politics, avowing his purpose to bury them with the dead. After a very pleasant conversation, in which the past was talked over and the future discussed, the party sat down to a sumptuous dinner. Before the dinner was over Mr. KERNS was quite sick. The family physician was sent for, who, upon examination, found Mr. KERNS was poisoned. All the antidotes and skill of the physicians were used, but without avail. Mr. KERNS died at six o'clock P. M. Both his sons-in-law, B. THOMAS and Dr. DUNMAN were supposed to be poisoned, and both died soon. Dunman died yesterday. Our citizens are deeply saddened in the unexpected bereavement, and earnest at the perpetrators of the act that caused it. Various persons have been suspected as the guilty party, but it is more conjectural, as no certain clue to the murder can be had, and no arrests have been made.

THE GRAND DUKE.

The Royal Party at the Falls of Niagara—Movements Since Sunday Visitation.

From the Buffalo Commercial Advertiser, Dec. 22.

At 4 o'clock yesterday, the Prince and suite arrived at the Great Western Railway Depot at Suspension Bridge, and were met by Mayor F. J. Fearon, at Clifton, Hon. T. C. Sweny, and Col. Sidney Barrett, commanding the Forty-fourth Battalion, Canadian Volunteers, numbering 100 men. A brief address of welcome was extended by Mayor Fearon, and an answer delivered made by the Prince. The party then boarded the carriages in waiting and were driven rapidly up the Canadian side of the river to Col. Barrett's Embassy. The first stage was drawn by four horses, and mounted the Imperial Arms, Admiral Prince Alfred, Ministers CARTWRIGHT and Col. BARRETT. Alighting, the visitors proceeded at once to a private parlor to the museum for the purpose of preparing for a trip under the Falls.

It was indeed a pleasant sight to witness the cordial kind feeling existing between the soldiers of the royal party, in second more like a group of jolly comrades. The Prince ALFRED is indeed a princely looking man, and impresses and most favorably. Standing over six feet in height of rather massive build, and with a cheerful, smiling, and yet sufficiently dignified face, he looks like one fitted for he is—a Prince among his fellows." When the party had dressed in the unique looking costumes needed in their proposed trip under the cataract, and were engaged in "jabbering" their native jargon with foreign volubility, the mirthful American spectators were envious of the picture. Any one who has ever seen a party of Frenchmen by the ear fully appreciated the same and imagine how heartily hooted on the occasion in question. The Prince appeared to enjoy the sort of thing immensely, and even with our rather slim knowledge of the Russian tongue we could understand that considerable "chaffing" was passed between the royal young men among the party. When all was in readiness the party left the Museum and descended the steps down the river's banks and disappeared under the Falls. Of course the trip was enjoyed, and the real greatness of the scene was appreciated. Upon returning to the Museum a visit was made over the building and the curiosities there to be found were examined. The members of the Buffalo Club Committee were introduced to ALFRED and extended to persons the invitation that had been given and accepted by telegraph. The Prince acknowledged the courtesies in a very pleasant and earnest manner. The party were then driven to the new Suspension Bridge.

QUEEN VICTORIA TO ALFRED.

According to a special dispatch to ALFRED and party were on their way from Toronto to Suspension Bridge, in a train stopped for a few minutes at Hamilton. As the Prince stepped into Hamilton station a lengthy dispatch was handed to him from Queen VICTORIA, announcing the intelligence of the progressing convalescence and probable recovery of the Prince of WALES. The Grand Duke was highly delighted at this piece of courtesy on the part of the Queen, and immediately wrote a reply, thanking the royal sender, and earnestly desiring that her wishes in respect to the Prince's recovery might be speedily realized.

ON THE AMERICAN SIDE.

The Prince and party walked over the bridge, stopping at frequent intervals to enjoy the scene. Soon the Spencer House was reached, and the handsome rooms in waiting were occupied. The truly American element of cosmopolitanism was shown in the cheering given the Prince along the route from the bridge to the hotel. The halls were filled with an assemblage of people interested to see the royal guest. About 4 o'clock the Board of Trustees of the village were presented to the Prince ALFRED and suite by Ex-Minister CATACAZY. Mr. D. J. Townsend, President of the Board, addressed the Prince in the following well-chosen words: "Your Imperial Highness: These gentlemen, constituting with myself the municipal government of the village, are present to tender in behalf of all our people to your Highness a hearty and sincere welcome to Niagara Falls. Except our own great natural wonder and its surroundings, we have little in which we can expect your Highness to take an interest, save the assurance of our lively regard for all that relates to the welfare of Russia, and an earnest hope that on your return to the banks of the Neva (which, God grant, may be in health and safety,) you may be able to take some substantial evidence of the good feelings of our countrymen for the great Empire you now represent, and of the esteem and admiration for its humane and illustrious chief." The Prince replied very graciously, thanks that any such complimentary words should exist with the cordiality exhibited. He thanked the trustees for the courtesy shown, and stated that as the party were fatigued the absence of a formal reception was rather gratifying than otherwise. He would be pleased to visit the American side of the Falls next day. Elegant conversation ensued, and the trustees then withdrew.

Shortly after, the delegation from Milwaukee, consisting of Messrs. HARRISON LUDINGTON, JEREMIAH CURRIE, J. M. BEAN and AUGUSTUS GAYLORD, paid their respects to the Prince, and tendered to him the welcome of their city. The invitation was accepted, and the time fixed for the visit was from Jan. 4 to the 6th, inclusive. Mr. BEAN, who was Secretary of the Legation at St. Petersburg under CASSIUS M. CLAY, addressed the Prince in the Russian language, which seemed to please the party highly. Dinner was served at 6 o'clock, and the really superior bill of fare proved well relished

NEW-YORK GOVERNMENT.

What is Proposed by the Committee of Seventy.

Draft of a Charter to be Considered by the Legislature.

Thorough Reorganization Demanded—Centralization of Power to be Broken Up.

The following draft of a new charter for the City of New-York, was exclusively published in yesterday's TIMES. It has been prepared by the Committee of Seventy, who intend to submit it to the new Legislature for consideration. The scheme thus embodied is fully indorsed by the Committee, and will no doubt be read with great interest, as an embodiment of the spirit of Reform. Copies, it is understood, have been sent to every Senator and Assemblyman elect for perusal in advance.

AN ACT

TO REORGANIZE THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT OF THE CITY OF NEW-YORK.

The People of the State of New-York, represented in Senate and Assembly, do enact as follows:

ARTICLE I.

THE CORPORATE POWERS.

SECTION 1. The Corporation now existing and known by the name of the Mayor, Aldermen and Commonalty of the City of New-York shall continue to be a body corporate and politic in fact and in name, by the same name, and shall have perpetual succession, with all the grants, powers, and privileges heretofore held by the Mayor, Aldermen, and Commonalty of the City of New-York, and not modified or repealed by the provisions hereinafter made by this act.

ARTICLE II.

LEGISLATIVE POWER.

SEC. 2. The legislative power of the said Corporation shall be vested in a Board of Aldermen, which shall consist of not more than forty-five members, one-fifth to be elected as hereinafter provided in each Senate district of the City, as now established by law.

[No provision is made for legislating out of office the present Board, as that will probably be effected by a special act early in the session.]

SEC. 3. There shall be Aldermen elected at an election to be held under this act on the second Tuesday of April in the year 1872, and on the second Tuesday of the same month in every year thereafter, to hold office for the term of one year from the first Monday of May next succeeding each and every such election.

For details as to manner of holding elections and election officers, &c., reference will be here made to general Registry and Election laws now existing, or to be passed by the Legislature of 1872.

SEC. 4. At such election each qualified voter in each Senate district may give not more than nine ballots, upon each of which shall be printed or written the name of one candidate for Alderman. The voter may give the whole of his ballots for one and the same candidate, or may distribute them between nine different candidates or a less number, in such proportion as he may see fit. After the closing of the polls on the day of election, the canvass in each election district of the senate district shall be completed by ascertaining, assorting, and making returns to the county canvassers of the number of ballots given for each candidate. From the returns so made the county canvassers shall determine the names of the nine persons having the largest number of votes in the Senate district, and they shall be returned as elected. In the event of a vacancy or vacancies arising by reason of less than nine persons being voted for in any Senate district, such vacancy or vacancies shall remain unfilled for the ensuing year. In the event of two or more of the persons voted for in any Senate district having received an equal number of votes, under such circumstances that there shall be no full number of nine persons having received the highest number of votes, the Aldermen elected at such election shall, within five days after their organization, select and determine, by lot, four among the said persons so having received an equal number of votes, a number sufficient to make up the full delegation of nine members from each Senate district, and the persons so selected shall be deemed elected.

SEC. 5. In case of vacancies by deaths or resignations, amounting in the whole to one-fourth of the entire Board, occurring before the 1st of February in any year, the said vacancies shall be filled by new elections to be held in the respective Senate district, or districts in which the vacancies shall have occurred, at a time to be appointed by the Board. Such elections shall be held in the manner and on the principles prescribed in section 4, so far as the same are applicable.

SEC. 6. A majority of the Board of Aldermen shall be a quorum.

SEC. 7. Said Board shall—1. Choose a President from its own members by a majority of the members elected; 2. Appoint a clerk and other officers; 3. Determine the rules of its own proceedings; 4. Be the judge of the returns of election and the right of election and qualifications of its own members; 5. Keep a journal of its proceedings; 6. Sit with open doors, except when the public welfare shall require secrecy; and 7. Shall have authority to compel the attendance of absent members; to punish its members for disorderly behavior, and to expel a member with the concurrence of four-fifths of the members elected to the Board.

SEC. 8. The first meeting of the Board shall be held on the first Monday in May after the election, at 2 o'clock in the afternoon, and at such meeting the Board shall appoint and determine the days and hours for its stated meetings, *provided*, that the hour for opening stated or adjourned meetings shall be fixed between the hours of [illegible] in the evening.

SEC. 9. Every legislative act of the Board shall be by resolution or ordinance, and every ordinance or resolution, except as hereinafter provided, shall, before it takes effect, be presented, duly certified, to the Mayor for his approval. *Provided*, however, that this section shall not apply to the acts of the Board in appointing or electing commissioners or heads of Departments.

SEC. 10. The Mayor shall sign the same if he approve it, or return the same within ten days, if he does not approve it, with the reason therefor, and if thereupon the Board pass the same within five days of such veto, by a majority of two-thirds of all the members elected, it shall become effective as though the Mayor had signed the same. It shall equally become effective if he should neglect to return the same within such ten days.

SEC. 11. No resolution or ordinance for alienating or leasing any property of the City, or which involves the appropriation of public moneys, or the taxing or assessing the citizens of this City, shall be passed or adopted until at least two days after the same shall have been introduced and entered upon the journal; nor shall any such ordinance or resolution be passed or adopted unless by a vote of two-thirds of the members present, which said two-thirds shall constitute at least a majority of the members elected. No additional allowance beyond the legal claim which exists under any contract with the Corporation, or for any services on its account, shall be passed except by an unanimous vote of all the members present.

SEC. 12. No resolution or ordinance appropriating any money, or giving any property of the City, or loaning the credit of the City to any private eleemosynary or charitable institution or purpose, shall be passed or adopted, unless such appropriation, gift or loan, shall have been first reported upon favorably by the hereinafter created Board of Charities and Correction; nor unless the same shall receive the votes of two-thirds of the members present, which said two-thirds shall constitute at least a majority of the members elected.

SEC. 13. No resolution or ordinance appropriating any money or giving any property of the City, or loaning the credit of the City to any private educational institution or purpose shall be passed or adopted, unless such appropriation, gift or loan shall have been first reported upon favorably by the hereinafter created Board of Public Instruction; nor, unless the same shall receive the votes of two-thirds of the members present, which said two-thirds shall constitute at least a majority of the members elected.

SEC. 14. The Clerk of the Board of Aldermen shall keep the seal of the City, and his signature shall be necessary to all leases, grants and other documents, as under existing laws.

SEC. 15. Immediately after adjournment the Clerk shall, avoiding all formal and technical details, prepare a brief abstract of all resolutions or ordinances introduced, and all recommendations of committees which propose or contemplate any specific improvement involving the appropriation of public moneys or the taxing or assessing the property of the citizens of the City. Such abstract shall be published in document form, together with the abstract of the reports of the Departments hereinafter provided for, which publication shall be known as *The City Record*, and a file of which shall be kept in every Department of the City Government. Such publication shall be a sufficient compliance with any law requiring a publication of the proceedings of the Board of Aldermen.

SEC. 16. The Board shall have the exclusive power to appropriate money by proper ordinance for every branch and object of City expenditure; and no money shall be drawn from the City Treasury unless the same shall have been previously appropriated by the Board.

SEC. 17. The Board shall have power to make, modify, continue and repeal such ordinances, regulations and resolutions as may be necessary to carry into effect any and all of the powers now vested in or by this act conferred upon the Corporation, and shall have power to enforce obedience thereto and obedience thereof by ordaining penalties for each and every violation, in such sums as may be deemed expedient, not exceeding one hundred dollars.

SEC. 18. Except in anticipation of the revenues of the current year the said City shall not have authority to borrow any moneys whatever on the credit of the Corporation beyond the sums now authorized by law, unless such loan shall be authorized by a special act of the Legislature passed after application therefor made by the Board of Aldermen or Mayor.

[Powers of assessment, street opening and widening, &c., &c., will be made the subject of a separate act.]

SEC. 19. Each Alderman shall receive a salary of two thousand dollars, payable monthly, subject to a deduction of ten dollars for each stated meeting of the Board that he shall during the month, for any cause, have failed to attend.

[Section declaring the Aldermen, Mayor and Controller to be Supervisors must be a separate act, on account of the constitutional provision as to title, and because City charter should not provide for County officers.]

ARTICLE III.

THE EXECUTIVE POWER.

SEC. 20. The executive power of the Corporation shall be vested in the Mayor and the Departments herein stated.

SEC. 21. The Mayor shall be the chief executive officer of the Corporation; shall be elected at the election hereinbefore provided for, to be held on the second Tuesday of April in each year hereafter, and hold his office for the term of one year, commencing on the first Monday of May next after his election. The first election for Mayor shall be at the election hereinabove directed, to be held on the second Tuesday in April in the year eighteen hundred and seventy-two.

[No provision is made for legislating present incumbents out of office for reasons above stated as to Boards of Aldermen.]

SEC. 22. Whenever the Mayor shall, from any cause whatever, be prevented from attending to the duties of his office, the President of the Board of Aldermen shall act as Mayor, and possess all rights and powers of Mayor. But it shall not be lawful for the President of the Board of Aldermen, when so acting as Mayor, to sign or approve any ordinance or resolution of the Board of Aldermen, unless the sickness, disability, or absence of the Mayor shall have continued at least ten days.

SEC. 23. Whenever a vacancy in the office of Mayor shall take place before the 20th day of October of any year, the Board of Aldermen shall order forthwith a new election for the office of Mayor, to be held at the then next general election for State or Federal officers. Until such vacancy is filled, the Board of Aldermen shall elect a Mayor, who shall hold office for the ad interim term. And they shall in like manner have power to elect a Mayor to hold for the unexpired term, when the vacancy in the office of Mayor takes place after the 20th day of October in any year.

SEC. 24. It shall be the duty of the Mayor: 1. To communicate to the Board of Aldermen at least once in six months, a general statement of the finances, government and improvements of the City. 2. To recommend to the Board of Aldermen all such measures connected with the security, health, cleanliness and ornament of the City, and the protection and improvement of its Government and finances, as he shall deem expedient. 3. To be vigilant and active in causing the ordinances of the City and laws of the State to be executed and enforced; and for that purpose may call together for consultation and co-operation any Commissioners or other City officers. 4. To call special meetings of the Board of Aldermen when he shall deem it expedient to do so. 5. Generally to perform all such duties as may be prescribed for him by City ordinances and laws of the State, and the Mayor shall be responsible for the good order and efficient government of the City.

SEC. 25. The Mayor may appoint such experts, clerks and subordinates as he may require to aid him in the discharge of his official duties, and such Commissioners of Departments and other officers of Departments as are hereinafter provided to be appointed by him.

SEC. 26. The Mayor shall receive an annual salary of $15,000. [Provision also to be made for an allowance to the Mayor to pay personal staff of experts, clerks, &c., for which he shall account.]

SEC. 27. The Mayor may be removed by the Governor for cause, in the manner provided by law in the cases of Sheriffs.

ARTICLE IV.

OF THE EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENTS OF THE CITY GOVERNMENT.

SEC. 28. There shall be the following other Departments in said City: Department of Public Works, Department of Public Parks, Department of Docks, Department of Public Charities and Correction, Department of Finance, Sinking Fund Commission, Department of Law, Department of Public Instruction, Department of Police, Department of Health, Department of Fire. [These last three Departments, if not provided for by some metropolitan district plan or otherwise, should be here enumerated.]

SEC. 29. In every Department there shall be kept a record of all transactions, to be accessible to the public from 9 to 3 o'clock each day, and at the end of each day a brief abstract shall be made of all contracts awarded and made, for work of every description, a copy of which abstract shall be transmitted to the Clerk of the Board of Aldermen for insertion in the City record.

SEC. 30. The said Department shall, when called upon by the Mayor or Board of Aldermen, make to him or them, respectively, reports of the operations and actions of the same, and each of them, and furnish to him or them such information as he or they may demand within such time as he or they may direct. [Here insert a provision as to how the subordinate officers and employes of Departments shall be appointed, whether by the Commissioners or otherwise.] [Here insert the provisions applicable to all the Departments, if there are any such.]

ARTICLE V.

OF THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS.

SEC. 31. The Commissioners of the Department of Public Works shall be five in number, who shall be called "Commissioners of Public Works," and who shall be the chief officers of the Department. One of said five Commissioners shall be appointed by the Mayor, between the first and tenth days of May in each year. The remaining four Commissioners shall be elected by the Board of Aldermen within the same period. At such election each Alderman shall give not more than four open ballots, upon each of which shall be printed or written the name of one candidate for the office of Commissioner, and each of which shall be signed by the member voting. Each Alderman may give the whole of his ballots for one and the same candidate, or may distribute them between four different candidates or a less number in such proportion as he may see fit. The four persons having the largest number of votes shall be deemed elected. In the event of a failure to elect four Commissioners by reason of less than four persons having been voted for, or by reason of two or more of the persons voted for having received an equal number of votes under such circumstances that there shall be no full number of four persons having received the highest number of votes, a new election for four Commissioners shall forthwith be held in the same manner. The Commissioners so appointed and elected respectively shall hold office until their successors shall have been appointed or elected, unless removed as hereinafter provided.

SEC. 32. The Mayor may at any time remove the Commissioner appointed by him, and appoint another in his place, at his pleasure, and may remove any other Commissioner for cause, assigning his reasons to the Board of Aldermen, in which case a majority of those members of the Board by whose votes said Commissioner was chosen, shall proceed to elect another Commissioner in the place of the one so removed; and the Board of Aldermen may at any time remove all the four Commissioners by them elected, (but not any less number than the whole,) and elect four new Commissioners, in the manner provided in the last preceding section.

SEC. 33. Whenever the words "Chief Engineer of the Croton Aqueduct Board," or "President of the Croton Aqueduct Board," or "Street Commissioner," occur in any existing law, ordinance, resolution, contract or documents, they shall be deemed to mean the aforesaid Commissioners of Public Works, and whenever in any law or in any ordinance or obligation of the Corporation the words "Street Department" or "Croton Aqueduct Board" occur, they shall be deemed and construed hereafter to mean the "Department of Public Works," and the Commissioner thereof.

SEC. 34. The said Department shall have all the powers and functions heretofore possessed by the Department of Public Works now existing, and such others as may be expressly conferred upon it by this act.

SEC. 35. [Here provide that the Department of Public Works shall have the powers, &c., of present Department of Buildings.] [Also here provide that the Department shall have the same control that the Department of Parks now has—of boulevards, streets and avenues above Central Park.]

SEC. 36. The said Department shall have cognizance and control:

1. Of all structures and property connected with the supply and distribution of Croton water. 2. Of regulating, grading, flagging, curbing, guttering, and lighting streets, roads, places and avenues. 3. Of the repairing and construction of public roads. 4. Of the care of public buildings. 5. Of the filling up of sunken lots. 6. Of public sewers and drainage. 7. Of street vaults. 8. Of paving, repaving, and repairing streets, and keeping the same clear. [Here provide for street-cleaning, if so determined.] 9. Of digging and constructing wells. [Insert also powers of Department of Public Buildings.]

SEC. 37. There shall be the following bureaus in this Department. [Here re-enact either section [illegible] of charter of 1870, or make such redistribution of bureaus as is deemed advisable.] [Also insert, if deemed proper, sections 1, 13 and 14 of chapter 383 of the laws of 1870.]

SEC. 38. The Commissioners shall, at the first meeting after their appointment and election as aforesaid, choose one of their own number for President, and another one of their number for Treasurer. [Provide for the attendance of one or more of the Commissioners at the meetings of the Board of Aldermen.]

SEC. 39. [Provides for salaries of President, Treasurer and Commissioners.]

ARTICLE VI.

OF THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC PARKS.

SEC. 40. The Commissioners or chief officers of the Department of Public Parks shall be five in number, who shall be called "Commissioners of Public Parks." They shall be appointed and elected respectively in the manner hereinbefore provided and prescribed for the appointment and election of Commissioners of Public Works, and be subject to removal in like manner. All provisions of sections 31 and 32 of this act shall be applicable to the Commissioners of Public Parks.

SEC. 41. The Department of Public Parks shall control and manage all public parks and all buildings therein, and public places, which are the realty of the City of New-York.

SEC. 42. [Here re-enact the general powers of the Department, as now existing, except as the same may be limited by the powers of the Department of Public Works.]

SECS. 43 and 44. [Here add sections same as 38 and 39, *supra*.]

ARTICLE VII.

OF THE DEPARTMENT OF DOCKS.

SEC. 45. The Commissioners or chief officers of the Department of Public Docks shall be five in number, who shall be called "Commissioners of Docks." They shall be appointed and elected respectively in the manner hereinbefore provided and prescribed for the appointment and election of the Commissioners of Public Works, and be subject to removal in like manner. All the provisions of sections 31 and 32 of this act shall be applicable to the Commissioners of Public Docks.

SEC. 46. [Re-enact article 11, of chapter of 1870, section 99, &c., as far as applicable and desirable.]

SECS. 47 and 48. [Here add sections same as 38 and 39, *supra*.]

ARTICLE VIII.

OF THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC CHARITIES AND CORRECTION.

SEC. 49. The heads or chief officers of the Department of Charities shall be five in number, who shall be called "Commissioners of Public Charities and Correction." They shall be appointed and elected respectively in the manner hereinbefore provided and prescribed for the appointment and election of the Commissioners of Public Works, and be subject to removal in like manner. All the provisions of sections 31 and 32 of this act as to election, appointment and removal, shall be applicable to the Commissioners of Public Charities and Correction. Said Board shall possess all the powers and discharge all the duties now conferred upon the Department of Public Charities and Correction by special laws, and by the provisions of chapter 510 of the laws of 1860, and acts and parts of acts amendatory thereto, except as the same are modified or repealed by the provisions of this act.

SEC. 50. There shall be two bureaus in this Department, a Bureau of Charities and a Bureau of Correction. The Commissioners shall appoint a superintendent for each bureau. The Bureau of Charities shall have especial charge of all institutions, the inmates of which have not been committed for any offense against the laws. The Bureau of Correction of all other institutions; and the two classes of persons under the charge of the Commissioners shall be as far as practicable separated. The Commissioners shall invite all incorporate charitable or benevolent societies, including hospitals, to file with the Bureau of Charities a statement of the objects for which said societies were established, the class of persons to whom they extend relief, and the mode of relief adopted; also to report from time to time the means at their disposal, and the sources whence derived, the names of persons relieved, and the amount of relief extended to them; and, in the case of hospitals or asylums, what number of additional inmates they can receive, and such other details as the Commissioners may deem advisable. Such information, when received, shall be properly classified in books prepared for the purpose, with such alphabetical indexes as will enable the Superintendent of such bureau at any time to refer to such institutions which take charge of any particular class of persons or patients, and to ascertain what relief any applicant to such bureau has heretofore received from any institution. The Presidents of all charitable associations which report to the Bureau of Charities shall constitute an advisory Board to such bureau, and any one or more of them may, at all times, have access to the books and institutions under the charge of such bureau, and submit to the Commissioners any suggestions, in writing, or complaints concerning the administration thereof.

SEC. 51. All applications for money, property or loan of the City's credit to any private eleemosynary or charitable institution or purpose, shall be made to this Department before the same can be acted upon by the Board of Aldermen. When such application shall have been filed in the office of the Secretary of this Department, the said Commissioners shall have power to visit the said institution or charity and examine and investigate its condition and purposes, and if they determine adversely to such application, the power of said Commissioners to visit and examine the same shall then cease and be determined. If, upon a report of this Department, such aid and support of, or for the maintenance of, such private eleemosynary institution or charity shall be extended by the Board of Aldermen and accepted by such institution or charity, said Commissioners shall thereupon be a Board of Visitors of said institution or charity, with power to send to such institution or charity for treatment or care, free of charge to the City, such cases as in the discretion of the said Commissioners can be better treated therein than in the public charities of the City. If such aid shall consist of money or bond of credit, said powers of said Commissioners shall continue during the period for which said donation shall have been made. If such aid shall consist of a donation of property of the City, then such powers of said Commissioners shall be perpetual.

SECS. 52 and 53. [Here add sections same as 38 and 39, *supra*.]

ARTICLE IX.

OF THE DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE.

SECTION 54. The chief officers of the Department of Finance shall be five in number. They shall be appointed and elected, respectively, in the manner hereinbefore provided and prescribed for the appointment and election of Commissioners of Public Works, and be subject to removal in like manner. All the provisions of sections 31 and 32 of this act, as to appointments, elections and removals, shall be applicable to the chief officers of this Department.

SEC. 55. The chief officer, so as aforesaid appointed by the Mayor, shall be called the "Controller of the City and County of New-York." He shall be the President of the Department and City and County Treasurer. The four chief officers, so as aforesaid elected by the Board of Aldermen, shall be called "Commissioners of the City Treasury."

SEC. 56. [Powers: See article 5, chapter of 1870, as amended by chapter 574 of laws of 1871, and re-enact the same as far as desirable.]

SEC. 57. Full statements of the receipts and expenditures of all the Departments, giving names, dates, and objects of expenditure shall be made on the third Monday of each month by each Department to the Department of Finance. The Controller, or any one of said Commissioners of the Department of Finance, shall be empowered at any time to inspect, examine or copy any vouchers, records or papers in any of said Departments. From the statements so returned and other information, the Department shall publish monthly, in pamphlet form, a detailed statement of all the receipts and expenditures of the City and County during the preceding month. No bond, certificate of stock, or evidence of public debt to be issued by the City, shall be valid unless signed by the Mayor and Controller, and countersigned by two or more of said Commissioners of the Public Treasury.

SEC. 58. Said four Commissioners of the Public Treasury shall perform all the duties and possess all the power heretofore performed and possessed by the Commissioners of Taxes, under existing laws. Said Commissioners of the Public Treasury shall keep duplicate books, one set of which shall be open and accessible at all times to all tax-paying citizens. [Provide for transfer of books, &c., &c., from Commissioners of Taxes to Commissioners of Public Treasury; also provide for legislating present Commissioners out of office.]

SEC. 59. [Abolish office of City Chamberlain.]

SEC. 60. There shall be a bureau in this Department for the collection of City revenues, which shall be charged with the collection of all City revenue arising from taxation, assessments, fines, rents, &c., the chief officer of which shall be the collector of City revenues, who shall be appointed by the Controller and the Commissioners of the City Treasury. [Provide for salaries of Controller and Commissioners of Public Treasury; also, for their attendance at meetings of Board of Aldermen.]

ARTICLE X.

OF THE SINKING FUND COMMISSION.

SEC. 61. [Here provide for the manner of constituting and the powers of the Sinking Fund Commissioners.]

ARTICLE XI.

OF THE LAW DEPARTMENT.

SEC. 62. The chief officer of the Law Department shall be called the Corporation Counsel, and he shall be a member of the Bar of this State, who shall have resided, or had an office in the City of New-York at least ten years consecutively immediately prior to the time of his appointment, and shall be appointed by the Mayor between the first and tenth days of May in each year, and shall hold office until his successor shall be appointed. The Mayor may remove him at pleasure, and appoint his successor.

SEC. 63. The said Corporation Counsel shall act as the legal advisor of all the Departments; and no attorney or counsel shall receive any compensation for any services rendered to any Department unless he shall have been employed by or with the consent of the Law Department, except as hereinafter provided; said Department shall semi-annually report to the Board of Aldermen the condition of all suits pending, the names of all attorneys and counsel employed, the fees paid to attorneys and counsel, all receipts of the office, and all other matters pertaining to the business of said Department.

SEC. 64. There shall be a bureau in this Department, the chief officer of which shall be called the Corporation Attorney; a bureau, the chief officer of which shall be called the Public Administrator; and a bureau, the chief officer of which shall be called the Attorney of Street Openings and Assessments.

SECS. 65 and 66. Powers. See existing laws. [Provisions for salaries, and for the Corporation Counsel attending the meetings of the Board of Aldermen, if thought desirable.]

ARTICLE XII.

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION.

SEC. 66. There shall be a Department of Public Instruction, which shall have the same powers and discharge the same duties which are now vested in the Department of Public Instruction by article 15, section 100, of chapter 383 of the laws of 1870, as amended by chapter 574 of the laws of 1871; and the members of which shall be elected as follows:

SEC. 67. At the election provided for by section 3 of this act, there shall be elected not more than fifty-five Commissioners, one-fifth to be elected in each Senate District of the City of New-York, as now established by law, to hold office for the period of — years.

SEC. 68. [A provision should be inserted for legislating out of office the present heads of Department of Public Instruction and Trustees.]

SEC. 69. At such election, each qualified voter may give not more than eleven ballots, upon each of which shall be printed or written the name of one candidate for Commissioner, and may give and distribute the same between eleven different candidates or a less number, in such proportion as he may see fit. After the closing of the polls on the day of election, the canvass in each election district of a Senate district shall be completed by ascertaining, assorting, and making returns to the county canvassers of the number of ballots given for each candidate. From the returns so made, the county canvassers shall determine the names of the eleven persons having the largest number of votes in each Senate district, and they shall be returned as elected. In the event of a vacancy or vacancies arising by reason of less than eleven persons being voted for in any Senate district, such vacancy or vacancies shall remain unfilled for the ensuing year. In the event of two or more of the persons voted for in any Senate district, having received an equal number of votes, under such circumstances that there shall be no full number of eleven persons having received the highest number of votes, the members of the Department of Public Instruction elected at such election, shall, within five days after their organization, select and determine by lot from among said persons so having received an equal number of votes, a number sufficient to make up the full delegation of eleven members from such Senate district, and the person or persons so selected shall be deemed elected. All vacancies thereafter occurring in any delegation from a Senate district shall be filled by a majority of the delegates from the district in which such vacancy occurs.

SEC. 70. The delegates from each Senatorial district shall exercise and discharge in that district all the duties heretofore performed by Trustees of common schools in their respective districts.

SECS. 71 and 72. [Provide for legislating present Board out, and for the appointment of Inspectors of Common Schools.]

SEC. 73. [Enact clause similar to section 51, under article providing for Commissioner of Charities and Corrections, passing upon applications for public money, and make the same applicable to all gifts of money to private educational establishments.]

[Article 12, &c., relating to Police, Health, and Fire Departments, not yet agreed upon.]

ARTICLE —.

GENERAL PROVISIONS.

SEC. —. Every person who shall promise, offer, or give, or cause, or aid, or abet, in causing to be promised, offered, or given, or furnish, or agree to furnish, in whole, or in part, to be promised, offered or given to any Alderman, or any officer of the Corporation, after his election as such member, or before or after he shall have qualified and taken his seat, any moneys, goods, right in action, or other property or anything of value, or any pecuniary advantage, present or prospective, with intent to influence his vote, opinion, judgment or action, on any question, matter, cause or proceeding which may be then pending, or may by law be brought before him in his official capacity, shall, upon conviction, be imprisoned in a penitentiary for a term not exceeding two years, or shall be fined not exceeding $5,000, or both, in the discretion of the Judge. Every Alderman or officer in this section enumerated who shall accept any such gift of promise or undertaking to make the same under any agreement or understanding that his vote, opinion, judgment or action shall be influenced thereby, or shall be given in any question, matter, cause or proceeding then pending, or which may by law be brought before him in his official capacity, shall, upon conviction, be disqualified from holding any public office, trust or appointment under the City of New-York, and shall forfeit his office, and shall be punished by imprisonment in the penitentiary not exceeding two years, or by a fine not exceeding five thousand dollars, or both, in the discretion of the Court. Every person offending against either of the provisions of this section shall be a competent witness against any other person offending in the same transaction, and may be compelled to appear and give evidence before any Grand Jury, or in any Court, in the same manner as other persons; but no person who shall voluntarily give testimony shall be subject to any prosecution whatever, civil or criminal.

SEC. —. Any citizen claiming to have been injured by any such vote or action of any Alderman or officer given for any dishonest or corrupt motive or consideration, may bring suit against such Alderman or officer, and on his conviction recover a penalty not exceeding one thousand dollars.

SEC. —. No member of the Board of Aldermen, Commissioner, head of Department, Chief of Bureau, deputy thereof or clerk therein, or other officer of the Corporation, shall be directly or indirectly interested in any contract work or business, or the sale of any article, the expense, price, or consideration of which is paid from the City Treasury, or by any assessment levied by any act or ordinance of the Board of Aldermen, nor in the purchase of any real estate or other property belonging to the Corporation, or which shall be sold by virtue of legal process at the suit of said Corporation. All such contracts or sales shall be forfeited as to any interest of the Aldermen, or other officers enumerated in this section; and any Alderman, or other officer, who shall be convicted before the Court of Common Pleas of having knowingly been interested in any such contract, work, business sale, or purchase shall be punished as for a misdemeanor, and forfeit his office.

SEC. —. Any member of the Board of Aldermen, Commissioner, heads of Departments, Chief of Bureau, Deputy thereof or Clerk therein, or other officer of the Corporation may, if a Judge shall so order, be summarily examined upon an order, to be made on application or written affidavit on the oath of any Commissioner of the public Treasury, or any three Aldermen of said City or County, requiring such examination, and signed by any Justice of the Supreme Court of the First Judicial District, directing such examination to be publicly made at the chambers of said Justice, at a day and hour to be named, not less, however, than forty-eight hours after personal service of said order, and such examination shall be confined to an inquiry into any alleged wrongful diversion or misapplication of any moneys or fund, or any violation of the provisions in the last two sections, or any other delinquency charged in said affidavit touching the office, or the discharge or neglect of duty, of which it is alleged in the application for said order that such Alderman, head of Department or other afore-mentioned officer has knowledge or information, such Alderman, Commissioner, head of Department or other aforesaid officer shall answer such pertinent questions relative thereto as the Justice shall direct, and the examination may be continued from time to time as such Justice may order, but the answers of the party charged shall not be used against him in any criminal proceeding; *provided*, however, that for all false answers on material points he shall be subject to the pains and penalties for the crime of perjury. The proceedings may be continued before any other Justice in said district, and other witnesses, as well as the parties making such application, may, in the discretion of said Justice, be compelled to attend and be examined touching such alleged delinquencies; and such Justice may punish any refusal to attend such examination, or to answer any questions pursuant to his order, as for a contempt of Court, and shall have as full power and authority to enforce obedience to the order or directions of himself, or of any other Justice, as any Justice of the Supreme Court may now have or shall possess, to enforce obedience or punish contempt in any case or matter whatever. Such examination shall be filed in the office of the County Clerk of the County of New-York, and be at all reasonable times accessible to the public.

SEC. —. No appropriation for the contesting of the office of Mayor, or any seat in the Board of Aldermen or Department of Public Instruction shall be made to any but the prevailing party. Nor shall such appropriation be made except upon the certification as to value of services by the chief officer of the Law Department. In the cases provided under the preceding section, the Law Department shall assign counsel to such Commissioner or Aldermen, but should such Commissioner or Aldermen see proper to employ other counsel than those assigned by the Law Department, then in that event no appropriation shall be made by the Board of Aldermen for his or their payment, except upon a certificate of the Justice or Justices before whom the proceedings have been had that there was probable cause for taking such proceedings.

SEC. —. Any person holding office, whether by election or appointment under this charter, who shall, during his term of office, accept, hold or retain any other civil office of honor, trust or emolument, under the Government of the United States, or the State, or under this charter, or who shall accept a seat in the Legislature, or who shall during his said term of office, receive any fees or emoluments directed to be paid to him by any ordinance of the Board of Aldermen, as hereinafter provided, shall be deemed thereby to have vacated his office. No person shall hold the charter or County offices, nor shall an officer under the County Government hold or receive an office under the County Government, except when he holds such office *ex officio*, by virtue of an act of the Legislature, and in such case he shall draw no salary for such *ex-officio* office.

SEC. 1. [Provision with regard to contracts.]

NEW MAGAZINES.

—The *Atlantic* opens the year with a number which, taken as a whole, has hardly its equal in the annals of periodical literature. A novel, posthumous, and perhaps not unpolished, but still a novel, by the greatest writer of fiction that America has ever known, is commenced, as is also a series of papers by our wittiest and most brilliant essayist. These two form the principal attractions, but there are contributions from others that follow close after, and add greatly to the general result. The first article in the order of arrangement is a poem by LONGFELLOW, entitled "Lady Wentworth." Next comes the opening pages of HAWTHORNE's story, "Septimius Felton; or the Elixir of Life," which are alive with suggestion, and filled with purely-drawn descriptions of Spring time in New-England and early pictures of colonial life. To whatever extent one may doubt the possibility of weaving a semi-modern story of the highest grade out of so obsolete a theme as the title would seem to imply, it is impossible not to perceive the skill with which the idea has, thus far, been introduced, making the desire for perpetuity of life to arise from something very different than the fear of physical death. JAMES PARTON, in "College Days of Thomas Jefferson" gives a thorough account of that period of the statesman's life, and the influences then at work to shape his future career. "The Heart of New-England" is a poem in EDWIN C. STEDMAN's customary vein, and of more than usual merit. In "A Comedy of Terrors" Prof. DE MILLE offers what certainly seems like a repetition of the "American Baron." We could forgive the presentation of one anomaly, as is shown in the case of a young lady being driven almost to despair, and finally to marriage, by the multiplicity of the proposals made to her; but to expect us to be entertained by the adventures of another in a similar predicament, is asking too much. "Change of Heart," by H. JAMES, Jr., is given in the form of a play, which is prevented from being very amusing by its vagueness. "Myths of the Barbaric World," by Prof. JOHN FISKE, is very entertaining, and "Diversions of the Echo Club" equally so. OLIVER WENDELL HOLMES begins his serial "The Poet at the Breakfast Table," with a description of his early home, which contains many of the delicate outline sketches, noticeable in his best work. The account closes with a poem, "Homesick in Heaven," which, in pure, simple beauty, far surpasses any of the other poems in the number. "Grandmother Tenterden," by BRET HARTE, would be a production of considerable merit were it not for a confusing dénouement which has been, for some unaccountable reason, tacked on at the last verse. The magazine has made considerable improvement in its reviews of "Art," "Science," and "Politics," all of which seem to be ably conducted.

—*Harper's* does homage to Christmas by a picture of Santa Claus on the opening page, followed by some bright, merry verses, in which his encounter with Cupid and his subsequent defeat are pleasantly described. "Holland and the Hollanders" is an illustrated article of great interest by HENRI JUNIUS BROWNE. The appearance of the rotund unctuous Dutchman of Delft, whose phlegmatic temperament—according to present belief—proved so great a torment to our Pilgrim Fathers as to drive them to seek a change in the wilds of America, is described by Mr. BROWNE in a clear, realistic manner. The remarkable rise of Mrs. SIDDONS from a strolling actress to the position of queen of the British theatrical world is given in an article entitled "From a Barn to Drury Lane." "A Visit to a Greenland Glacier," with illustrations, is a condensation of Dr. J. J. HAYES' new book. JULIAN HAWTHORNE has written a story of great merit called "The Mysterious Case of My Friend Browne," which has about it much of the quaint mysticism which his name would naturally suggest. "Is Alaska a Paying Investment," by W. H. DALL, well deserves careful reading. It has been so long asserted without contradiction that this territory is utterly worthless and that its purchase could only be viewed in the light of a gigantic fraud, by which seven millions were taken from the Treasury, that it is well to have the public mind disabused by the facts Mr. DALL presents so strongly. He shows that the territory is at this time worth to the people of this country, judged by the ordinary rate at which money is loaned, three times the amount paid at the time of purchase, and in this respect more valuable than Florida, New-Mexico, or Arizona; while its future is inseparably interwoven with that of the material prosperity of the Pacific Coast, since California, Oregon, Washington Territory, are all dependent upon it for a variety of supplies. The "Editor's Easy Chair" contains an account of Washington, and the various "Records" are respectively complete and entertaining.

—In the *Catholic World* the subject of sectarian school education is treated in an article headed "Who is to Educate Our Children?" One of the worst features in this controversy which our public school system has brought into existence, and which seems destined to assume still more formidable proportions, is the inability of any of the three separate parties to find the least ground of common interest. The Roman Catholics protest both against the reading of the Bible in the schools and its entire omission; and will be content with nothing but "the establishment of denominational schools for Catholics, wherever practicable, under the supervision of the proper ecclesiastical authorities," or "to abolish altogether the school tax." Many Protestants are as strongly opposed to a pure secular education in the public schools as the Catholics, while an ever-increasing number think it the only equitable arrangement possible. The above-named article gives the clearest expression of Catholic opinion that we have yet read, but the belief that compulsory education is detrimental to the country, when entertained by so large a number of our citizens cannot be regarded with any other feelings than those of alarm. The article is well worth reading from the importance the subject may assume in future political complications. The results of the late Episcopal Convention are commented on though in a manner far too acrid to be pleasant. The remainder of the number contains several articles both of sectarian and general interest.

—*Our Young Folks* opens with J. T. TROWBRIDGE's new story, "A Chance for Himself." The author's knowledge and power of description are never used to better advantage than when treating of the incidents of American country life, and his young readers will, in the two chapters he has given them, become well acquainted with many of the characters in the coming story. "The Little Dunbars" is a pleasant Christmas story, and Miss PHELPS' "Great Sea Serpent" a delightful tale. An account of adventures in New-Zealand, entitled "Crusoe Life," by Rev. E. D. CARTER, commences in this number. "Our Letter-box" gives a startling geographical puzzle, for the solution of which a number of prizes are offered.

—*Littell's Living Age* contains a very entertaining Welsh story from *Blackwood's* named "The Maid of Sker," "Browning as a Preacher," from *Dark Blue* is a keen analysis of some of the strongest points in the writings of that poet. There are, besides, selections from *Pall Mall Gazette, Cornhill, Spectator* and *Saturday Review*, all of them possessing special features of interest.

—The *Phrenological Journal* makes a speciality in the publication of excellent biographical accounts of the prominent men of our country. In the present number there are sketches of Minister WASHBURNE, Rev. Dr. THOMPSON, "Sol" SMITH, RUSSELL and WM. N. BYERS, each one of which is illustrated by the portrait of the person described. There is an able article by Sir CHARLES BELL, on "Expression—its Anatomy and Philosophy." "Only a Head; or, Not a Cent in the World," by LYDIA M. MILLARD, is an amusing account of the misfortunes of a lady without money, in this City.

—*Beecher's* contains several articles on matters of local importance, principal among these is the first of a series of papers entitled "Legends of New-Jersey," by THOMAS TASSEL. "The Theatre of Saturnia" is an article of considerable interest. "The Philosopher of the Pines," by Rev. SAMUEL LOCKWOOD, is an account of the singular life of the botanist Dr. PETER D. KNIESKERN. There are also a number of other contributions of a very readable nature.

—*Scribner's* literally overflows with Christmas topics. BAYARD TAYLOR has a sweet little poem on "The Orphan's Christmas Tree," then "A Christmas Carol," by CHRISTINA ROSSETTI, and a "Christmas Symphony" by H. H., each one illustrated, and besides these, though without illustrations, which it little needs, is a poem by Mrs. A. D. T. WHITNEY, entitled "Christmas." In prose there is a charming burlesque story, "Stephen Skarridge's Christmas," by FRANK R. STOCKTON, showing how the genial influences of the day can change the heart of a selfish man, and "The Oak Tree's Christmas Gift," by JULIAN HAWTHORNE, a highly imaginative tale. The other articles in the number are exceedingly attractive. ISAAC H. BROMLEY commences a series of papers entitled "The Wonders of the West," the first one being "The Big Trees and the Yosemite." The illustrations to this article are so admirably done that they cannot fail to win praise from the most critical readers. But it is not to them only that we would call attention, for, at best, they are but additions to one of the most graphic descriptions of that wonderful valley we have ever read. Mrs. OLIPHANT concludes "The Two Mrs. Scudamores," a charming story, and begins a very promising one entitled "At His Gates." In "The Last Man of Mexican Camp," JOAQUIN MILLER has treated that somewhat stale subject, the superhuman goodness of Californian miners, in an agreeable, if not an original manner. A readable article is made from the condensation of Col. GORDON CUMMINGS' "Wild Men and Wild Beasts," while "Some Kinds of Spiritual Quackery" proffers a store of thought, both for inward digestion and general application. The "Topics of the Times," "The Old Cabinet," and the other miscellany are well worth reading.

—The *Eclectic* has a capital critique from the *Quarterly Review* on the respective poetical merits of BYRON and TENNYSON, the writer claiming that the Anglo-American estimate in which both are held is far more correct than that entertained by their own countrymen. "A Frenchman's Voyage Round the World in 120 Days" is translated from the *Revue des Deux Mondes*. "On the Condition of the Working Class in England," by THOMAS WRIGHT, from *Fraser's Magazine*, is a very able article, and the remaining selections from *Cornhill, Temple Bar, Saint Paul's, Chambers's, Macmillan's*, and *London Society*, are both entertaining and instructive. The number also contains two steel engravings.

—*Lippincott's* opens with a continuation of WHYMPER's "Scrambles Among the Alps," which exhibits even more forcibly than the preceding numbers the reckless though indomitable pluck of the writer. The illustrations in this serial are admirably done. "Our Newport Storm Signals," by Prof. T. B. MAURY, is both interesting and instructive. "Brown's Christmas Bundle," by W. MACKAY LAFFAN, is a good story of California mining life, though so closely resembling BRET HARTE's work, in some respects, as to look like an infringement if not an imitation. There are two admirable sketches of European life, one "Types of Castilian Vagrancy," by DAVID G. ADEE, and the other "A Russian Family Wolf-hunt," by VERA [illegible]. Both of these are written in a delightful manner, the former particularly, and with far more of descriptive force than is ordinarily found in magazine articles. A new serial, entitled "Aytoun," begins with this number, and, though it is impossible to judge of the entire story by the first installment, the incidents thus far narrated seem strangely at variance with the usual tenor of American life. The suggestions of the seasons are embodied in a well-written story by L. CLARKE DAVIS, called "Shadows of a Christmas Fire," and also in "The Herald's Cry," a poem by CONSTANCE F. WOOLSON. In purely mechanical excellence, such as type, paper, &c., this periodical stands, with one exception, far above all its rivals.

—The *Galaxy* begins the year with an unusually instructive number, the six leading articles being of a descriptive character. JUSTIN MCCARTHY furnishes a very discriminating review of the character and work of Archbishop MANNING, to whom, more than to any one else, will be due whatever success the Roman Catholic cause may meet with in England. "The Jews—What They are Coming to," by W. M. ROSENBLATT, is one of the most interesting magazine articles we have read for some time. It is a very singular fact, that although believers in the Jewish faith are to be found in all the principal forms of business, and in many social circles in this City, the knowledge which those outside of their sect have of their belief is generally very slight. He draws the conclusion from careful observation, that the barriers that have so long separated the race and religion from the rest of the world will be completely broken down within the next half century. "The Real Gulf Stream," by Dr. J. J. HAYES, corrects many popular fallacies concerning this natural phenomenon, by a clear statement of some of the latest investigations. "Fifteen Years a Shakeress," is the title to the first of a series of articles on the peculiar social habits of this sect. Gen. CUSTER also begins a series of papers called, "My Life on the Plains." The one in the present number, though somewhat diffusive, is very readable. M. E. W. S. continues her notes from Italian journeyings with an account of "Milan and the Italian Lakes." In the lighter reading, Mrs. EDWARDS' story of "Ought We to Visit Her" is brought to a conclusion. TROLLOPE's tale of "The Eustace Diamonds" drags a little in the chapters given. "The Marquise," a decidedly characteristic story, by GEORGE SAND, and an unhappily conceived tale by EMMA B. COBB, named "Fire from Heaven," complete the list.

—The *Congregational Quarterly* has been consolidated with the *New-Englander*, the name of the latter being retained. In the present number, "The Roman Element in Modern Civilization," by Prof. J. L. DIMAN, contains a careful review of certain features in M. GUIZOT's *History of Civilization in Europe*. The Inaugural Address of Prof. SAMUEL HARRIS, on assuming the Dwight Professorship of Theology at Yale College, is given under the heading of "The Theological Department Essential in a University." Prof. J. S. SEWALL's "Study in Chinese History" is of more than usual interest, from the amount of valuable information to be obtained by reading it. "Récit d'une Sœur," the review of a French book of that name that has already attained considerable celebrity, though very ably written, is nevertheless a curious specimen of unconscious bigotry in an attempt to appear liberal. The following extract is one instance:

"The volume whose title we have placed at the head of this article furnishes satisfactory evidence that what has been true in the past remains true at the present time; that there are very many in our own day who implicitly accept the dogmas of the Roman Catholic Church who in their lives and in their deaths give unmistakable evidence of genuine piety."

Were it not that the subject is too serious to warrant the supposition, we should take this to be intended as a joke. The short book reviews are as a general thing exceedingly well done, and the entire number of more than average excellence.

—The pleasant English custom of stretching the regular twelve monthly issues into a "baker's dozen" by the addition of one at Christmas time, has been adopted but by one magazine in this country. This, the "Christmas Locket" of the *Old and New*, forms a highly diversified and readable number. By a happy fiction the various writers are supposed to be caught in the ice while crossing to Jersey City in a ferry-boat, and relieve the tedium of their delay by story-telling. Considerable broad exaggeration in descriptive writing is pardonable at Christmas time, and by its use Dr. HALE has succeeded in "dovetailing" the stories together in an admirable manner. There is a poem by JOAQUIN MILLER, entitled "Christmas," the rhythm and many of the expressions of which are even more suggestive of SWINBURNE than any of his previous writings; also a sketch from GEORGE MACDONALD's story, "The Vicar's Daughter;" "A Tale of Eastern Travel," by Miss L. P. HALE; a weird Norse legend, by Dr. HALE; a characteristic poem by (H. H.) HELEN HUNT, besides a number of other diverting stories by well-known writers.

IN THE DARK.

Effects of the Gas Explosion on Saturday Night.

The Metropolitan Company's District Still Without Gas—The Work of Repair Progressing—A Promise of Light To-Night.

The vicinity of the Metropolitan Gas-works, at the foot of West Forty-second-street, yesterday, was the scene of much excitement and activity. The explosion of the previous night had completely demolished the houses and buildings surrounding the purifying-room, which was the centre of the disaster. Piles of bricks lay around, disclosing the eight iron "purifiers," the covers of which had been stove in. Offices and adjacent buildings were rent from foundation to roof, every window upon the Company's premises was broken, and the adjacent walls were tottering. At an early hour in the morning several hundred workmen were busily engaged in removing the debris from the purifiers, tearing down dangerous brick-work, and disengaging piles of iron and plaster from between the iron vessels. Four of them, it was said by Mr. [illegible], the engineer, were badly injured, and four so slightly as to be [illegible] in a few hours. Members and officers of other companies paid early visits to the works, and speculated on the probable cause of the mishap. As is usual in regard to accidents, many theories were announced for the prevention of such occurrences. The people of the neighborhood who might have been the greatest sufferers crowded around and gave free vent to their opinions on the disaster and the Company. Questions were freely put as to the cause of the explosion; but not so freely answered by the employes, who generally expressed a very singular ignorance of everything but the fact of the explosion. However, gentlemen in knots stood by one of those full gas-tanks east of the ruins, and one of them, who had some official connection with the Company, remarked in an undertone to another, rather jocularly: "The strangest thing of all is that the fellow who caused the blow up escaped with a few bruises."

"You don't say," said the other under his beard.

"Yes, sir," replied No. 1, [illegible], "there was said to be a 'drip' or 'leak' in one of the purifiers, and the fool took a bull's-eye lamp and went down into the room filled two-thirds with the gaseous atmosphere, and up she went. The house and all you see came tumbling down upon the iron covers just as things look now, while the stupid fool was only pushed in under the beams there and escaped with a little hurt."

Further conversation was broken off by the appearance of Mr. ZOLLICOFFER, the President of the Company. He, with Senator MORGAN and some other gentlemen, came out to inspect the pile. A few minutes after another gentleman told our reporter that the explosion had been caused as above described, and a bull's-eye lantern had been found on the floor of the purifying-room in the morning.

MR. ZOLLICOFFER'S VIEW.

Mr. ZOLLICOFFER, in a conversation with the reporter, said that the explosion had been caused by a man's incautious exposure of a light in the purifying-room, which was partially filled with gas escaping through a "drip." "This," said he, "is not a leak. On the contrary the iron 'purifiers' were as strong as they could be made. The drip was one of the uncovered vents from which gas may escape at any time, and because of which no naked light was ever allowed to enter the purifying-room. The accident was [illegible] an accident, for which the Company could not be held accountable at all. It might happen to any other, and would certainly have been prevented, if possible, by us. It is all due to the carelessness of a foolish man."

"Do you know his name?" asked the reporter.

"No, Sir; I did not bother to ask or find out. The immediate repair of the damage done is all that I have had time to think of. The public shall experience little more inconvenience, at any rate. You perceive that there are three tanks full of gas remaining. These contain enough to afford three hours' light to the whole district. I have applied to Mr. GOWAN, of the Harlem Company, for aid, if he will allow us to connect his and our main at Seventy-ninth-street we will be able to supply our district with light to-night. I have 1,000 men at work clearing away the ruins; two gangs of machinists, under Mr. FLOYD and our engineer, have begun to repair the four slightly damaged 'purifiers,' which will be in condition to allow us to make gas for to-morrow—Christmas night. The others, of course, are badly smashed on the covers, and will not be ready for use for some three or four days to come. If the Manhattan Company will let us connect with them down-town, there would be scarcely any inconvenience to our people from the disaster. You know, I suppose, that there was gas-light until a late hour on Saturday night above Fiftieth-street, because we had a couple of tanks full up-town near Sixty-fifth-street. They were sufficient to supply the upper part of the district for a few hours. We have no [illegible] up there and cannot make gas; hence our request for outside assistance. The Company will lose close on $50,000. I regret very much that this should have happened during the Holidays, because we find it difficult to get workmen."

WHAT PEOPLE THINK.

There is a strong feeling of indignation among the people who have been supplied with gas by this Company. They complain of its poor quality in the past few weeks, and grumble at the steepness of their bills. Many are sorry that the Company has not been obliged to give up business and they do not hesitate to say that it should be made to pay for the result of employing careless men. People remark that it is all very well to get behind the excuse that no one was injured, and no houses in the neighborhood of the works had been blown down. These are merely providential escapes, which might never occur once out of ten thousand times. "The truth is," said a man [illegible] the [illegible] operations, "the Company overworks good men when it gets them, and drives them away. There are lots of incompetent hands in the place. Here is proof: A chap is sent to look after the 'purifying-room,' who does not know that gaseous atmosphere will ignite if a naked light is brought into it." Others loudly assert that the Company, having contracted to furnish the district with light, should be made to pay losses incurred by store-keepers Saturday night. Not a few accused the Company of having put too much pressure on the purifying boxes, whereby the leak was made which caused the disaster.

Later on in the afternoon Mr. ZOLLICOFFER received communication from the Harlem Gas Company, telling him that the desired assistance could not be afforded him at present. Therefore the City between Thirty-fourth and Seventy-ninth streets was without gas last night. The hotels were generally well lighted with lamps. Fortunately the night was clear, and the moon shone brightly. The Church services in this district were postponed, and the citizens were seriously inconvenienced.

At the works gangs of men 200 strong labored all night long to repair the slightly damaged "purifiers." Two were pronounced to be fit for use at 7 P. M.; but the engineer declared it best not to open any of the pipes in the vicinity of the ruptured part until a thorough overhauling had been made. Nevertheless, the furnaces were kept going to heat the retorts, which are to be charged by noon to-day at the latest. Three hours' gas is already on hand, and the "purifiers" will be in a condition to prepare at least sufficient for two hours more. Therefore the President announces that the district will be lighted up this evening by gas, between the hours of 7 P. M. and midnight. The street lamps will be used under the direction of the Police.

WILLIAM NAMAR was the individual who went into the gas-chamber with the bull's-eye lantern. He says there was a leak of gas down there and he entered, never dreaming of harm. From the moment he got fairly inside he has no further recollection of what transpired until he picked himself up among the general debris in the open air. Whether he was "blown up" with the flooring, brick and other material, or crept out, himself he cannot say. He is not much hurt. One of his hands is bruised, and he has a few abrasions of the skin in other parts of the body. He remains quietly at home.

The Internationals.

The Federal Council of the International Working Men's Association met yesterday afternoon at No. 100 Prince-street. The Secretary read a letter he had received from one of the seamen at the Naval Academy at Annapolis, stating that the seamen there were in sympathy with the Society and desired to communicate with it. A communication was also received from Boston announcing that French and German sections had been formed there, and more were organizing daily.

Attempted Murder with a Car-Hook.

About 8 o'clock Saturday evening, THOMAS J. LARKIN, a conductor on the Third-avenue Railroad, was about starting his car from the depot at Sixty-sixth-street, when he was suddenly assaulted by ROBERT HALLORAN, who was armed with a car-hook. Striking LARKIN on the head, he inflicted a severe scalp wound. Immediately after striking the blow, HALLORAN fled, and although pursued by Patrolman CORNISH, Nineteenth Precinct, managed to escape. The assault seems to have been induced by the fact that HALLORAN had been lately discharged from his position as driver, and believed that his dismissal was due to LARKIN.

FRANCE.

Winter Scenes in Paris—The President's Message—M. Thiers and the Orleans Princes—The Message in the Assembly—The Executive at the Tribune—Impression of the Monument.

From Our Own Correspondent.

PARIS, Friday, Dec. 8, 1871.

This morning the streets of Paris are covered with snow for the first time in several years, and it would be good, excellent sleighing if there were any sleighs. [illegible] Yesterday morning snow began to fall, becoming a regular snow-storm in the afternoon and covering the ground before night. About 5 o'clock the omnibus lines had suspended their trips, and the cabs had taken their horses to the Company's stables, for, after mid-day, it was almost impossible for a horse to keep upon his feet, or to keep a wagon in motion. [illegible]

THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE.

[illegible]

M. THIERS AND THE ORLEANS PRINCES.

Another point is now causing very general discussion. For some time there has been a rumor that the Duc D'AUMALE and the Prince DE JOINVILLE intended to take their seats in the Assembly when it reopened. M. THIERS flew into a rage whenever the subject was mentioned. On Monday he met the Duc, and, the subject being mentioned, M. THIERS spoke very sharply, and there are rumors of high words between the two. At any rate the President left the Duc in anger, and at once began to address a friend. "I will never give my consent," he said, with very emphatic gesture. "It is a violation of the engagement entered into with me. If they insist upon taking their seats in spite of their word, I will go before the Chamber and force it to choose between them and me." In the words of M. THIERS: "Choose—it is one or the other; them or me;" and this was followed by a very positive threat to throw up his hand and a *ex-abrupt* if the Chamber allowed the Duc D'AUMALE to sit as a Deputy. We are at a loss to account for the President's energy. I will give the circumstances of the case. When the law for the abrogation of the law of exile came up M. THIERS favored it, but put off the vote for the moment. Meantime the two Princes had been elected to the Assembly, and with this title they took the right of entering France. M. GAMBETTA had issued a decree making it illegal for any member of any family which had been upon the throne to hold office, but M. THIERS not only allowed the elections to go on, but when completed he again mentioned the law on exile, and as he had made no objection to the entry of the Princes, and as they were frequent guests at his house, the law was speedily repealed. But it was said, before giving his influence in favor of the law, M. THIERS drew a promise from the Princes that they would not try to take their seats while the country was in its provisional and unsettled state. After the Rivet proposition, M. THIERS published a decree, or several as for that matter, in which it was stated that the Republic had been constituted by this vote, and this fact, recognized by the President himself, is claimed by the Princes as a release from their engagement not to take their seats while the country was in a provisional and unsettled state. Either M. THIERS was wrong in saying that the Rivet proposition—with which he was so well pleased—did establish the Republic, or the Princes are now right in saying that they are released from their engagement. Their election was regular, and the Assembly has verified their powers—

what then can make M. THIERS object to their presence? The most probable theory is that M. THIERS wishes to reinstate the ORLEANS family, and hence does not want the Princes to lower their dignity by entering the Chamber. The second theory is that the Duc D'AUMALE would at once become a leader of the majority, and have absolute control in it. Hitherto there has been a very decided majority in the Chamber, but it has been useless for the want of a leader. M. THIERS himself has controlled it, even when courting the Left, but he could not do so for a moment if the majority was under a capable leader, as the Left is under GAMBETTA.

THE MESSAGE IN THE ASSEMBLY.

Despite the cold, I went to Versailles on Monday last, where the immobile M. BAZE refused me a ticket as usual, and I was forced to look up a Deputy friend to gain admittance. He informed me that the message would not be read, and that the session would end in nothing. Through his kindness I was furnished with a ticket for yesterday's session, and was thus able to avoid the amiable BAZE, the terror of all journalists and one of the few men in the world everybody likes to avoid. Not that people are afraid of him, but because he has the power to be insolent, and uses it, falling back upon his parliamentary privileges for protection. [illegible] A large number of Deputies and of women who had been provided with tickets to the session, filled the train, which made a dreary journey [illegible]. Half an hour later Mme. THIERS and Mlle. DOSNE entered their box and the President was seen after soon entering the Deputies' door. He was immediately surrounded by a number of friends, whom he seemed to treat with hauteur and scant courtesy. A large number of Deputies were upon their benches before the session commenced, and M. GREVY was in his chair. The diplomatic box was filled to overflowing. All of the Ministers were in their seats, and GAMBETTA and TROCHU were at their places near the door. M. GREVY rose as if to call the House to order. At that moment M. THIERS left his seat, and, crossing the floor, whispered in M. BARTHELEMY SAINT-HILAIRE's ear. Then the two went out together by a side door, leaving the Chamber in wonder over the little mystery. When M. THIERS came back he had on his overcoat, and this was probably the cause of his conference with his secretary. Meantime the Deputies were lounging about in every direction, talking loudly, arguing violently, and making a clatter very much like that of the Gold-room, or Stock Exchange. M. GREVY again rose and rang his little bell. The huissiers began to shout, "To your seats, gentlemen, if you please!" "Silence, gentlemen, if you please!" "Rejected gentlemen, if you please," and many similar cries, mingled with the now constant tolling of the President's bell. The huissiers shouted themselves hoarse, and paid a visit to the bar, but when they came back the noise still continued, and bells sprung, M. GREVY continued to ring his bell. During this time M. THIERS had taken his seat on the Ministerial bench, and sat with folded arms, gazing upon the floor, lifting his eyes from time to time and carrying them from M. GREVY to the boisterous crowd. With an air which seemed to say that they should not be silent until they all must, the Deputies finally lounged into their seats, but a few continued to argue. As the majority were now silent they joined forces with the President and the huissiers, and soon brought the hall to comparative silence, which is something like the silence of a village school when all of the scholars are mumbling over their lessons to themselves. In a few terse and well-chosen words, M. GREVY opened the session. This eminent and moderate Republican, like VICTOR LEFRANC, always speaks to the point and with no superfluous words or idle phrases. He has no time to waste in abusing the Empire, nor in developing dreams of the utopian social Republic. It is a pity that France has so few men of M. GREVY's stamp. After a few words of thanks to the members for again electing him President of the Chamber, M. GREVY announced that the floor was at the service of "Monsieur le President de la République."

THE EXECUTIVE IN THE TRIBUNE.

There was an immediate hush throughout the hall, and amid the most profound silence M. THIERS ascended the steps of the tribune. Notwithstanding the heat of the hall with its numerous stoves, M. THIERS did not remove his black overcoat. His first effort is a common one with him, and consists in taking out his handkerchief, and, folding it very carefully, laying it down upon the desk. The appearance of M. THIERS in the tribune is very curious. His exceedingly small but solid form seems to add considerably to the size of his head, which is surmounted by two locks of hair, which mount like two horns on either side, and his white cravat, give him a sort of ministerial expression. The peculiarly grim way he has of looking about the hall before speaking is indescribable. At first his voice is harsh and weak, but it grows more forcible in a few moments, and soon rises to a key far above the beginning, where it is held without great modulation. The first words of the message, meaning nothing but congratulation on the return of the Assembly, drew forth cries of *très bien* from the Left, while the words "We found scarcely at Paris," sent the Right off into a round of cheers. Thus the two sides played against each other throughout the entire speech. At every mention of the insurrection of Paris the members of the Left were profoundly silent, while those of the Right broke out into applause, and only once were the two sides fairly united. The President began to reckon up the losses, so many milliards up to Metz, so many up to the fall of Paris, the cost of the war in the provinces, the money paid for keeping the German troops, the cost of the Government of the September, two provinces and the glory and grandeur of France, and after adding up the sum he charged it in lump to the Empire. At that moment both sides cheered. And well they may, for both sides know that they are fighting hard to prevent the return of NAPOLEON III., who, despite their constant abuse, is still cheered by a majority of the people of France. They dare not put the question fairly and squarely before the people, but, fearing they may have to do so, they do not like to lose an opportunity of blackening the Empire if they can. I doubt if M. DE PRESSENSE, the Protestant pastor and Deputy from Paris, ever preaches a sermon without speaking of the "eighteen years of immorality and corruption through which the country has just passed." When it came to abuse of the Empire—and there was a good deal of it in the message—both sides applauded like men who are fully aware that their constituents were against them, and that their public careers would be over were those constituents to pronounce for the Republic or for NAPOLEON III. That they will do one or the other is so certain that the present Deputies are ready to go for any monarchy which will prevent those results, and hence no one need be surprised to see the COMPTE DE PARIS speedily called to the throne *de par l'Assemblée Nationale*. During the latter moments devoted to the message the Republicans were silent. There had been rumors that this message would give a striking recognition of the Republic. Some of the Ministers had also let out the secret that it recommended the return of the Chamber to Paris. All that had been expurgated, and, as the orator drew near the end, the Republicans grew sad to find that not once had the word Republic been used by the President. Besides, there were some points which did not please all. M. THIERS was a little hard on England, for example, and asserted that no one would pretend to doubt that the French Government had acted well in the matter, yet, nevertheless, the treaty was to be denounced for the purpose of increasing the duties upon certain materials. The military men were quite disgusted with the President for pronouncing so strongly against compulsory service, and with the strength of his expressions upon that point. Compulsory service, he said, could never be in time of peace. The moment it was made the law "France was lost." Grave fears were also aroused by the financial policy, for the President favors the increased circulation of the Bank.

ASHBY.

FINANCIAL AFFAIRS.

Sales at the Stock Exchange—Dec. 23.

[illegible table]

MONDAY, Dec. 25—A. M.

The General Trade of the past week was active in Cotton and Cotton Goods. The stocks of the latter, of favorite mills, have been freely bought up, and the Domestic Commission men are indisposed to make engagements ahead except at an advance in prices. This would indicate that mill owners at home anticipate stiffer figures for the raw material as the movements of the crop season develop themselves. It is doubtful, however, whether the Manchester people feel the same confidence in the future of Cotton Goods, as their Colonial markets in the East and the markets of China and Brazil and the Continental markets are supposed to be in danger of a glut, if not already overstocked. The receipts of Cotton at all the ports of the United States for the week were 130,000 bales, equal, (for the first instance for some time past,) to the corresponding week of last year. Prices, however, continue firm in New-York both for Cotton in hand and for future delivery, an advance on the cash price being paid for the Spring months.

While Gold has declined to 108¼ to 108⅝ ₩ cent. since our last weekly review, and Money to the Brokers has ruled unusually dear and stringent, the Stock market has advanced from 1 to 3 ₩ cent. on the Railroads and continued firm on the Public Funds of the United States, and the feeling at the close of the week was decidedly buoyant on increased speculative orders and new combinations for a rise.

The weekly averages of the Associated Banks, Local and National, reporting through the Clearing-house for the week ending Saturday last, Dec. 23, compare as follows with the previous week, and also with the corresponding week last year. To which we add the Gold and Currency balances in the New-York office of the United States Treasury at these dates respectively:

Decrease in Loans	$11,726,700
Decrease in Specie	[illegible]
Decrease in other Legal Tenders	2,274,600
Decrease in Deposits	[illegible]
Decrease in Circulation	[illegible]

	Dec. 24, '70.	Dec. 23, '71.	Dec. 16, '71.
National Capital	$72,485,000	$71,725,000	$71,725,000
Local Capital	12,120,000	15,[illegible]	15,[illegible]
Total	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Loans	254,411,126	271,283,[illegible]	283,170,700
Gold and Gold Notes	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Other Legal Tenders	46,730,[illegible]	41,217,[illegible]	44,[illegible]
Deposits	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Circulation	32,182,[illegible]	29,575,[illegible]	29,[illegible]
In Sub-Treasury	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]

The Bank return published this morning exhibits the relative strength of the movement in respect to the lawful money held as against the circulation and deposits, to which we add the position of the movement the week before, and also of the movement of the corresponding week last year:

	Dec. 16, '71.	Dec. 23, '71.	Dec. 24, '70.
Deposits	$[illegible]	$[illegible]	$[illegible]
Circulation	29,[illegible]	29,575,[illegible]	32,184,[illegible]
Total	$249,925,100	$237,922,300	$230,951,737
Required 25 ₩ ct.	$61,781,270	$59,[illegible]	$58,[illegible]
Gold and Green-backs	70,[illegible]	63,[illegible]	[illegible]
Excess	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Rate for money	7 ₩ cent.	7 ₩ cent.	7 ₩ cent.

The Bank return shows a very large liquidation of Loans and Discounts, and, even a much larger increase in the general line of Deposits, with an unexpected loss on the Gold average. The difference against the Greenback average was looked for. There is a considerable share of the decrease in Loans and in Deposits, due to the fact that the outside Banks, not members of the Clearing-house, whose reports have heretofore been included as a matter of courtesy, are now dropped from the Clearing-house return.

Decrease in loans	$11,726,700
Of which outside banks	4,[illegible]
Actual decrease in Clearing-house	$7,[illegible]
Decrease in deposits	$[illegible]
Of which outside banks	4,742,600
Actual decrease in Clearing-house	$[illegible]
Decrease in gold	$[illegible]
Of which outside banks	[illegible]
Actual decrease in Clearing-house	$[illegible]
Decrease in greenbacks	$[illegible]
Of which outside banks	[illegible]
Actual decrease in Clearing-house	$[illegible]
Decrease in circulation	[illegible]
Of which outside banks	[illegible]
Actual decrease in Clearing-house	$4,[illegible]

The Import Entries at New-York, embracing foreign Dry Goods and General Merchandise, for the week past, were $5,225,090, as against $4,874,656 for the corresponding week last year. The Exports of Domestic Produce, other than Gold and Silver, were $5,338,566 against $5,903,096 same week in 1870. The Export of Gold and Silver, $307,882, against $420,127 same week in 1870. The Customs in Gold paid into the New-York Office of the United States Treasury for the week were $1,695,000. The receipts of Cotton, coastwise and by rail, 18,076 bales.

The Gold values of the Import entries of Foreign Merchandise at New-York, exclusive of Foreign Specie, for the calendar year 1871, are as follows, the figures being official to Dec. 1, and since semi-official from the Custom-house:

January	$[illegible]	September	$[illegible]
February	31,[illegible]	October	30,[illegible]
March	[illegible]	November	[illegible]
April	32,[illegible]	Dec. 2	[illegible]
May	[illegible]	Dec. 9	[illegible]
June	30,[illegible]	Dec. 16	[illegible]
July	[illegible]	Dec. 23	[illegible]
August	[illegible]		
Total since Jan. 1			$[illegible]
Same date 1870			304,[illegible]
Increase in 1871			$70,[illegible]

The currency value of Exports of Domestic Produce, and Miscellaneous Goods, including Foreign Goods re-exported from New-York since Jan. 1, is as follows:

January	$19,[illegible]	August	$19,510,[illegible]
February	15,730,[illegible]	September	[illegible]
March	22,[illegible]	October	[illegible]
April	19,[illegible]	November	[illegible]
May	18,[illegible]	Dec. 6	[illegible]
June	18,[illegible]	Dec. 13	[illegible]
July	17,[illegible]	Dec. 20	[illegible]
Total since Jan. 1			$[illegible]
Same date 1870			[illegible]
Increase in 1871			$[illegible]
Gold Dec. 23, 1871			108⅝ ₩ cent.
Gold Dec. 24, 1870			110¾ ₩ cent.

The Exports from New-York of Gold and Silver Coin and Bullion, since Jan. 1, are as follows:

January	$[illegible]	September	$[illegible]
February	4,[illegible]	October	2,[illegible]
March	[illegible]	November	[illegible]
April	9,[illegible]	Dec. 2	[illegible]
May	[illegible]	Dec. 9	[illegible]
June	8,004,[illegible]	Dec. 16	[illegible]
July	11,[illegible]	Dec. 23	[illegible]
August	2,701,[illegible]		
Total since Jan. 1			$[illegible]
Same date 1870			[illegible]
Increase since Jan. 1			$[illegible]

The following are the Customs receipts in Gold, and the interest paid on the Public Debt in Gold, at the New-York office of the United States Treasury, since Jan. 1:

	Customs received.		Gold interest paid.
January	$12,[illegible]	January	$16,[illegible]
February	12,[illegible]	February	2,[illegible]
March	15,[illegible]	March	4,[illegible]
April	12,[illegible]	April	1,[illegible]
May	12,[illegible]	May	11,[illegible]
June	10,[illegible]	June	2,[illegible]
July	12,[illegible]	July	17,[illegible]
August	17,[illegible]	August	2,[illegible]
September	13,[illegible]	September	4,[illegible]
October	12,[illegible]	October	1,[illegible]
November	[illegible]	November	13,[illegible]
Dec. 2	[illegible]	Dec. 2	[illegible]
Dec. 9	2,[illegible]	Dec. 9	[illegible]
Dec. 16	1,[illegible]	Dec. 16	[illegible]
Dec. 23	1,[illegible]		
Total, 1871	$[illegible]	Total, 1871	$[illegible]
Total, 1870	[illegible]	Total, 1870	[illegible]

The Cotton movement at all the ports, for the week and season, compares as follows with last season:

[illegible table]

COURSE OF THE STOCK MARKET—THE WEEK.

[illegible table]

The Stock Exchange on Saturday adjourned early, and even while in session could register but few of the transactions made because of the Christmas Eve carnival which the members, old as well as young, feel bound traditionally to observe with penny whistles and such-like noisy demonstrations. After the adjournment there was considerable business done in the Hall of the Exchange between the Brokers, and at strongly advancing prices on nearly all the Railroads, and on some of the Railway Mortgages. Little or no regard was paid to the Bank Statement, although less favorable than looked for, and the month of December had before known no such *Bullish* market as today. New-York Central Stock and Scrip, Union Pacific Stock and Bonds, Rock Island, Wabash, Ohios, &c., were all in strong demand, and from 1 to 3 ₩ cent. higher than on Friday. The First Mortgage Bonds of the Union Pacific Road rose to 94 ₩ cent., and additional dealings were had in the Land Grants and Incomes of the same Road.

The Stock Exchange Building was closed up at 3 o'clock. The following quotations were made as compared with Friday night. The Southern State Bonds were exceptions to the general firmness. The Public Funds were steady in prices, but not active.

Gold sold down to 108⅝ ₩ cent. in the forenoon, but after the Bank return, showing an unlooked for loss on the Gold average of nearly three millions, (accounted for by some of the Brokers by the exceptional loans made of the Banks early in the week in Gold by way of raising Money outside,) the price stiffened up to 108⅞ ₩ cent.

CLOSING PRICES—DEC. 23.

	Friday.	Saturday.
United States 10-40s	109¼	109⅜
United States 5-20s of 1862	109¼	109⅜
United States 5-20s of 1867	115⅝	115⅝
American Gold	108⅝	108⅞
Bills on London, 60 days	109⅝	109⅝
N. Y. C. and Hudson	96⅜	94⅜
N. Y. C. and Hud. Debt Ctfs.	86⅞	88⅞
Reading	110⅜	111
Chicago and Rock Island	106⅞	106⅞
North-west Common	66⅞	64¾
North-west Preferred	89⅝	89
Pacific Mail	58⅞	56¼
St. Paul Preferred	77¼	77⅜
St. Paul Common	58⅞	54¼
Ohio and Mississippi	44⅞	44⅝
Toledo and Wabash	67⅝	68⅝
Western Telegraph	68⅞	69⅞
Erie	30⅞	30⅞
Union Pacific	30¾	30¼
Lake Shore, Ex. Scrip	91⅛	92⅛
Lake Shore Scrip	84	84½

At the very close the market was strong.

The Virginia Legislature on Friday resolved *not* to pay the January Interest on any part of the Public Debt of the Commonwealth, and thereupon adjourned over the Holidays.

The return from the Bank of England for the week ended the [illegible] of December gives the following results when compared with the previous week:

Rest	[illegible]	Increase [illegible]
Public deposits	7,317,[illegible]	Decrease 297,[illegible]
Other deposits	17,[illegible]	Decrease 2,076,[illegible]
Government securities	13,[illegible]	No alteration.
Other securities	17,[illegible]	Decrease [illegible]
Notes unemployed	14,[illegible]	Decrease 186,[illegible]

The amount of notes in circulation is £24,402,730, being an increase of £196,470; and the stock of bullion in both departments is £24,411,245, showing an increase of £17,661, when compared with the preceding return.

While the foregoing synopsis shows a decrease of £2,078,788, in other than Government deposits, the official state of the Bank shows a corresponding increase in the post bills, (or certificates of special accounts,) of which £2,000,000 sterling or $10,000,000 belong to the Treasury of the United States. This deposit is subject to the control of Mr. RICHARDSON, the Assistant Secretary of the Treasury, now, and for some time past, in London, and if not all invested in the "called" bonds of 1862, owned in Europe, before his return, the balance will be transferred to the Department at Washington, and the Bank of England post bills exchanged for Gold on this side. The Treasury reported as Coin on hand on Saturday night $109,267,284, of which the Gold in the Bank of England no doubt constitutes a part. The Gold Circulation of the Treasury is now $34,980,000, which would leave the surplus of Gold in the absolute ownership of the Treasury $74,408,284.

BANKING AND FINANCIAL.

☞ UNION PACIFIC BONDS.

The undersigned offer for sale, at the current market rates, the First Mortgage and Land Grant Bonds of this Company.

The First Mortgage Bonds, due 1898, bear the same rate of Interest as United States Five-twenties, (Six per Cent.) gold, free of tax. They are a first lien upon the Road and its equipment.

The Land Grant Bonds are a first mortgage upon the remaining 11,[illegible] acres of land belonging to the Company, the proceeds of all sales of which are solely applied to the redemption of the Land Grant Bonds. The total sales of land to Oct. 31, 1871, were 460,111 29-100 acres, for $2,030,831 89, averaging $4 [illegible] per acre. The net earnings for the first six months (of the third fiscal year) ending Nov. 1, 1871, were $2,460,219 04—more than twice the amount of the interest upon the First Mortgage and Land Grant Bonds, and about three times the amount of the interest upon the First Mortgage Bonds. The annual interest upon the First Mortgage Bonds is $1,634,270 gold; the annual interest upon the remaining Land Grant Bonds is $650,320 currency.

MORTON, BLISS & CO.,
No. 30 Broad-street, New-York.

BANKING-HOUSE OF HENRY CLEWS & CO.,
No. 32 Wall-st., New-York.

☞ LETTERS OF CREDIT FOR TRAVELERS, also Commercial Credits, issued, available throughout the world.

Bills of Exchange on the Imperial Bank of London, National Bank of Scotland, Provincial Bank of Ireland, and all their branches.

Drafts and Telegraphic Transfers on Europe, San Francisco, the West Indies, and all parts of the United States.

Deposit accounts received in either currency or coin, subject to check at sight, which pass through the Clearing-house as if drawn upon any city bank; four per cent. interest allowed on all daily balances; Certificates of Deposit issued bearing interest; Coupons collected; advances made on approved collaterals and against merchandise consigned to our care.

Orders executed for Investment Securities and Railroad Iron. CLEWS, HABICHT & CO.,
No. 11 Old Broad-st., London.

BANKING AND FINANCIAL.

☞ THE WEALTH OF INDIA, CHINA AND JAPAN
FOR
GREAT BRITAIN AND AMERICA.

The trade with the East Indies and the consequent accumulation of wealth thereby has been the real basis of the present great financial power of the British Kingdom. This trade has been carefully nursed and jealously guarded by all British statesmen. For many years the monopoly of this rich trade centered in London, but the completion of the Pacific Railroads and the establishment of a line of steam-ships between San Francisco, China and Japan are causing this great source of wealth to drift toward the United States. Nearly all of the teas, silks, and other rich products of China and Japan now come to this country by steam to San Francisco and thence by rail to the East. This trade has grown to such an extent that already over one hundred car-loads of teas and silks pass over the Pacific Railroads to the east each month. This business is bound to increase with time, especially when the steam-ship service between San Francisco and the East Indies is doubled, which will take place at an early day. Men of business understand the importance of the saving of distance as it affects the condition of teas and silks, and also the still greater importance of the saving of time in the interest account. Experience has demonstrated and the necessities of trade require that the distance by rail between the Atlantic and Pacific coasts can and must be shortened. The accomplishment of this promises to be a fact of the early future, by the construction of the ST. JOSEPH AND DENVER CITY RAILROAD FROM ST. JOSEPH TO FORT KEARNEY, on the Union Pacific Road. A large portion of this enterprise has been completed and in successful operation for some time past. Only a comparatively small part of the Western Division remains to be built, and as soon as this is done, the distance between San Francisco and the Eastern and Middle States will be materially shortened. Everything indicates a large traffic for the road from the very start. We are now offering with our unqualified indorsement the remaining balance of the EIGHT PER CENT. GOLD FIRST MORTGAGE SINKING FUND LAND GRANT BONDS OF THE ST. JOSEPH AND DENVER CITY RAILROAD COMPANY, WESTERN DIVISION, with both principal and interest in gold, and the interest payable either at New-York, London, or Frankfort-on-the-Main. These bonds are secured by a first mortgage on all the property and franchises of the Company, which cover 1,[illegible] acres of land, pronounced to be among the very best in the United States for farming purposes. The mortgage indenture forbids the sale of these lands at less than (4) four dollars per acre, and the proceeds must be paid to the trustees—THE FARMERS' LOAN AND TRUST COMPANY—for the sole purpose of retiring these bonds. The bonds have thirty years to run, and the interest is payable in February and August of each year, free of tax. The [illegible] price is 97½ and accrued interest in currency from Aug. 15, 1871. They are receivable at par and accrued interest in payment for the Company's lands.

Our firm buy and sell, the same as Government bonds and other securities, the bonds of the St. Joseph and Denver City Railroad Company; and those of the Eastern Division, which were subscribed for through us at 97½, are now quoted at 101¼ to 102¼ and accrued interest. *We refer with satisfaction to the fact that these bonds have commanded a premium on the subscription price ever since the loan was all sold, and we have no doubt those of the present loan will rank equally high after its close.*

TANNER & CO.,
BANKERS, NO. 11 WALL-ST.

☞ EIGHT PER CENT. FIRST MORTGAGE GOLD BONDS OF THE MOBILE AND MONTGOMERY RAILROAD COMPANY, INDORSED BY ALABAMA, $16,000 A MILE ON A COMPLETED ROAD. PARTICULARS ON APPLICATION. FOR SALE AT NINETY-FIVE AND ACCRUED INTEREST BY

SOUTTER & CO.,
No. 53 William-st.

☞ THE WEST WISCONSIN RAILWAY IS completed to Hudson, and will have trains running to St. Paul by the commencement of the coming year. This route will be the trunk line for the Eastern and Western business of Northern Wisconsin and Minnesota, as well as for the through business to the East, the line being 100 miles shorter than by the present route. The grain and lumber business of the road is very considerable and steadily increasing, yielding ample returns to the investor. The Land Grant and property of every description belonging to the Company is worth double what is the amount of the mortgage, and is held as security for the bonds, which are payable, interest and principal, in gold, bearing seven per cent. per annum. Bonds are for sale at [illegible] and accrued interest in currency, by WHITE, MORRIS & CO., No. 16 Wall-st., and GWYNNE, JOHNSON & DAY, No. 16 Wall-st., agents for the Company.

MARKETS BY TELEGRAPH.

CHICAGO, Dec. 23.—FLOUR dull and unchanged. WHEAT dull and a shade lower; No. 1 Spring, $1 [illegible]; No. 2 do., $1 19¼; No. 3 do., $1 [illegible]; No. 2 Spring, seller January, $1 [illegible]; seller February, $1 21⅜. CORN dull and a shade lower; No. 2 Mixed, [illegible]; Rejected, [illegible]; seller January, 40¾c.; February, 41¼c.@41¾c.; April, 43¼c.; May, [illegible]. OATS dull and a shade lower; No. 2 at 31c.; Rejected, 29¼c.@30c.; No. 2 seller January, 32¼c.; May, 37¼c. RYE dull and a shade lower; No. 2 at 62½c.@63c. BARLEY firm and in fair demand; No. 2 Spring, [illegible]; No. 3 do., [illegible]; No. 2 Spring, seller January, 63¼c. PORK dull at $12; seller January, $12 10@$12 12½; February, $12 [illegible]; March, $12 [illegible]; April, $12 [illegible] $12 70. LARD dull and drooping; sales at 8¾c.; seller January, 8¾c.; February, [illegible]; March, [illegible]. HAMS in pickle, 8½c.@9c. BULK MEATS quiet and unchanged. GREEN MEATS unchanged. WHISKY, 9c. asked. RECEIPTS—5,000 bbls. Flour, 21,000 bushels Wheat, 121,000 bushels Corn, 24,000 bushels Oats, 1,000 bushels Rye, 11,000 bushels Barley, 24,000 Hogs. SHIPMENTS—5,000 bbls. Flour, 3,000 bushels Wheat, 6,000 bushels Corn, 8,000 bushels Oats, 3,000 bushels Barley, 2,000 Hogs. Total number of Hogs packed this season, [illegible]. The Board of Trade held no session Monday.

NEW-ORLEANS, Dec. 23.—COTTON quiet; Middling, 19¼c.@19½c.; net receipts, 10,050 bales; gross, 10,[illegible] bales; exports to Great Britain, [illegible] bales; coastwise, 2,794 bales; sales, 5,000 bales; stock, 155,[illegible] bales. FLOUR scarce; no Superfine here; Double Extra, $7 [illegible]; Treble Extra, [illegible]. CORN lower, 65c. OATS, [illegible]. BRAN and HAY unchanged. PORK dull; offering at $14 [illegible]. BACON—No Shoulders; Sides dull at [illegible]. SUGAR dull and unchanged. MOLASSES easier; inferior, [illegible]; common, [illegible]; fair, [illegible]; prime, [illegible]; strictly prime to choice, [illegible]. COFFEE advanced; fair, [illegible]; good, [illegible]; prime, [illegible]; choice, [illegible]. EXCHANGE—Sterling, [illegible]; New-York sight, ⅛ discount. Gold, 108¼.

ST. LOUIS, Dec. 23.—General market dull, and business very small. FLOUR unchanged and quiet. WHEAT dull and nominal; only small sample lots were sold. CORN—Fair Eastern demand; No. 2 Mixed in the elevator, [illegible]. OATS quiet and steady; No. 2 in the elevator at [illegible]. RYE and BARLEY nothing done. WHISKY dull at 88c. Mess PORK held at $13 [illegible]; no sales. Dry Salted MEATS dull and declining; jobbing lots Loose Shoulders, 4¼c.; Clear Rib Sides, 6⅛c.; Packed Lots, 5c., 6c. and 6⅜c. BACON unchanged; only order trade. LARD dull at 8¼c.@8¾c. Live HOGS dull, dealers apart; small sales at $3 [illegible]. CATTLE unchanged.

CINCINNATI, Dec. 23.—FLOUR and GRAIN unchanged. PORK dull and lower; sales at $12 37. LARD dull and drooping; sales of Steam at [illegible]. Bulk MEATS quiet and weak; asking for Shoulders, 5¼c.; Clear Rib Sides, [illegible]; Clear Sides, [illegible]; sales 100,000 lbs.; sales of Shoulders at 5¼c., seller February. BACON dull and unchanged; Shoulders, 6¾c.; Clear Rib Sides or Clear Sides, 7½c. HAMS, 12¼c.@13¼c. Green MEATS dull and market unsettled; asking 4¼c.@5¼c.; Hams in pickle dull; sales at 8¼c.@9c.

LOUISVILLE, Dec. 23.—BAGGING quiet and steady at 13¼c.@13¾c. FLOUR active and firmer; Family, $6 50. WHEAT firmer and higher, owing to light receipts; choice Red and White, on arrival, $1 45@$1 48. CORN in fair demand; [illegible], for ear and shelled, in bulk. OATS steady; Prime, 40c. RYE firm, [illegible]. Live HOGS dull at $3 [illegible]. PROVISIONS steady and unchanged. PORK, $14, cash for round lots. Bulk MEATS—Sides, 6⅝c.; Clear Sides, 7¼c., packed. Sugar-cured HAMS, new, 14c., packed. LARD, 10¼c. WHISKY quiet and steady at 90c.@91c.

CLEVELAND, Ohio, Dec. 23.—FLOUR unchanged and quiet. GRAIN—Nothing done. PETROLEUM weak and lower; Refined, in car lots, 21c.@21¼c.; small lots, 22c.@22¼c. ₩ gallon; Crude dull at $4 70@$4 75 ₩ bbl.

WILMINGTON, Dec. 23.—Spirits of TURPENTINE quiet; held at 64c. ROSIN firm at $4 25 for Strained, and $5 75 for Pale. Crude TURPENTINE firmer at $3 60 for Hard, $5 60 for Yellow Dip, and $5 35 for Virgin.

ALBANY, N. Y., Dec. 23.—WHEAT—Only sale one car No. 1 Treadwell at $1 57. RYE dull and nominal. CORN neglected. BARLEY very quiet; sales 600 bags Two-rowed State at 75c. OATS very dull.

MEMPHIS, Dec. 23.—FLOUR—Full prices asked, but no demand; prices unchanged. CORN in good demand at 62c.@64c. OATS quiet and unchanged. Bulk MEATS quiet and unchanged.

SAVANNAH, Dec. 23.—COTTON quiet; Middling, 19¼c.@19½c.; net receipts, 3,[illegible] bales; exports to Great Britain, 1,500 bales; coastwise, 350 bales; sales, 1,700 bales; stock, 75,[illegible] bales.

CHARLESTON, Dec. 23.—COTTON quiet; Middling, 19c.; net receipts, 2,[illegible] bales; exports to Great Britain, 2,012 bales; coastwise, 280 bales; sales, 300 bales; stock, 49,[illegible] bales.

GALVESTON, Dec. 23.—COTTON firm; good Ordinary, 17¼c.; net receipts, 2,041 bales; exports to Great Britain, 1,[illegible] bales; sales, 1,[illegible] bales; stock, 35,[illegible] bales.

MOBILE, Dec. 23.—COTTON quiet, but firm; Middling, 19c.; net receipts, 2,[illegible] bales; sales, 1,[illegible] bales; stock, 51,[illegible] bales.

AUGUSTA, Dec. 23.—COTTON strong, in good demand; Middling, 18¼c.@18½c.; receipts, 1,500 bales; sales, 1,[illegible] bales.

COMMERCIAL AFFAIRS.

NEW-YORK, Saturday, Dec. 23, 1871.

The receipts of the principal kinds of Produce since our last have been as follows:

[illegible table]

The export clearances since our last, as reported at the Merchants' Exchange, Pine-street, have been as follows:

By the steamer *England*, for Liverpool—[illegible]

By the steamer *City of New-York*, for Liverpool—[illegible]

[illegible]

COFFEE—Has been held with much confidence [illegible]

COTTON—Has been dull since our last, with prices [illegible]

Closing prices of Cotton in New-York to-day.

	Uplands.	Alabama.	N. Orleans.	Texas.
Ordinary	17⅛	17⅜	17½	18
Good Ordinary	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Low Middling	19⅝	19⅞	20⅛	21⅛
Middling	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Good Middling	21	21⅛	21¼	22

FLOUR AND MEAL—State and Western Flour has been partially neglected [illegible]

No. 2 Flour, ₩ bbl.	$[illegible]
Sour Flour	[illegible]
Superfine State and Western	[illegible]
Extra State	[illegible]
Extra State, shipping brands	[illegible]
Extra Genesee	[illegible]
Extra Western, [illegible]	[illegible]
Extra Ohio, trade and family brands	[illegible]
Extra Western, trade and family brands	[illegible]
Extra St. Louis, [illegible]	[illegible]

Southern Flour has been dull and nearly nominal. [illegible]

GRAIN—Business in Wheat has been confined to a few [illegible]

HIDES—For Dry Hides there has been an active [illegible]

LEATHER—Hemlock Sole has been in quick request [illegible]

MOLASSES—Has been quite [illegible]

NAVAL STORES—Prices have been quoted rather steadier for some kinds of stock [illegible]

PETROLEUM—[illegible]

PROVISIONS—[illegible]

SEEDS—Clover has been quiet and heavy; [illegible]

SKINS—[illegible]

SUGARS—[illegible]

TALLOW, &c.—For prime grades of Tallow, there has been a fairly active call, partly for shipment, at firm prices. [illegible]

WHISKY—[illegible]

FREIGHTS—[illegible]

Court Calendars.

SUPREME COURT—CIRCUIT.

Part 1.

Adjourned for the Term.

SUPREME COURT—CIRCUIT.

Part II.—Held by Brady, J.

Adjourned to Jan. 2, 1872, at 11 o'clock A. M.

SUPERIOR COURT—SPECIAL TERM.

Adjourned until Tuesday, Dec. 26, 1871.

SUPERIOR COURT—CHAMBERS.

[illegible]

COMMON PLEAS.

Adjourned for Term.

MARINE COURT—GENERAL TERM.

[illegible]

MARINE COURT—TRIAL TERM.

[illegible]

NEW PUBLICATIONS.

THE LAST WEEK!

NO. 105 NASSAU-ST.

We are selling this week

GIFT-BOOKS FOR CHILDREN.

GIFT-BOOKS FOR GROWN FOLKS.

GIFT-BOOKS FOR SCHOOL PRESENTS.

GIFT-BOOKS FOR THE HOLIDAYS,

AT HALF PRICE.

THE NASSAU-ST. CHEAP BOOKSTORE.

M. DOOLADY, Agent,

NO. 105 NASSAU-ST., CORNER OF ANN-ST.

DRUNKEN LEGISLATORS.—RIGHT and duties of American citizens in securing good men to serve them in all places of public trust. [illegible] PHRENOLOGICAL JOURNAL. 30 cents, or $3 a year. Newsmen have it.

YOUR LIPS—YOUR LOVER'S LIPS; THICK Lips, Thin Lips; All about the Lips and the Mouth. [illegible] In the JANUARY NUMBER PHRENOLOGICAL JOURNAL. 30 cents, or $3 a year. Newsmen have it.

EXPRESSION IN FACE, FORM AND FEATURE.—Something for artists, on the anatomy and philosophy of expression, by Sir Charles Bell, in JANUARY NUMBER PHRENOLOGICAL JOURNAL. Only 30 cents, or $3 a year. Newsmen have it.

NEW VOL., NO. 1, NOW READY!—Useful, entertaining, indispensable! Good Health, Good Habits; How to train up a Child; How to choose a Pursuit; and how to read correctly the character of those we meet, are among the subjects of the illustrated PHRENOLOGICAL JOURNAL for 1872. Only $3 a year, or 30 cents a number. Newsmen supply it. Clubbed with either of Harper's or other $4 magazine for $6; and with *Christian Union*, $5—and a pair of chromos $10—that is, the worth of $8 for $5, by S. R. WELLS, No. 389 Broadway, New-York.

THE LAW OF PROGRESS AS SEEN in Intercommunication Among Men. The Pack, trian, Canoe, Horse, Wheels, Ship, Steam, The Magnet in JANUARY NUMBER PHRENOLOGICAL JOURNAL; only 30 cents, or $3 a year. Newsmen have it.

TAKING COLD—ITS CAUSE, ITS EFFECTS, and its cure on Hygienic principles, is given in the JANUARY NUMBER PHRENOLOGICAL JOURNAL, 30 cents, or $3 a year. New Volume. Newsmen have it.

CRAZY RULERS FROM CALIGULA and Nero, down to Andrew Johnson in JANUARY NUMBER PHRENOLOGICAL JOURNAL, only 30 cents, or $3 a year. Newsmen have it.

MARRIAGE AMONG KINDS.—ARE they Polygamists? The question answered in JANUARY NUMBER PHRENOLOGICAL JOURNAL, 30 cents, or $3 a year. Newsmen have it.

INFLUENCE OF FORESTS ON CLIMATE.—Value of trees; duty of States in securing the planting of trees on every farm, in JANUARY NUMBER PHRENOLOGICAL JOURNAL, 30 cents, or $3 a year. Ask your newsman for it.

GREAT FIRES OF ANCIENT AND MODERN TIMES—Jerusalem, Rome, London, Moscow, Constantinople, New-York, Pittsburg, St. Louis, San Francisco, Portland, Sacramento, Chicago, in JANUARY NUMBER PHRENOLOGICAL JOURNAL; 30 cents, or $3 a year. Newsmen have it.

The New-York Times.

NEW-YORK, MONDAY, DEC. 25, 1871.

Amusements This Evening.

GRAND OPERA-HOUSE.—TICKET-OF-LEAVE-MAN: Matinée at 1 o'clock—[illegible] OF LORIMEAU—Mr. Wachtel.

BOOTH'S THEATRE.—JULIUS CÆSAR—Mr. Edwin Booth.

AIMEE'S OPERA-HOUSE.—BARBE BLEUE. Matinée at 2 o'clock—LA PERICHOLE.

NIBLO'S GARDEN.—THE BLACK CROOK—Miss Kate Santley. Matinée at 2.

WALLACK'S THEATRE.—JOHN GARTH—Mr. Lester Wallack.

FIFTH-AVENUE THEATRE.—DIVORCE—Characters by company. Matinée at 1½.

OLYMPIC THEATRE.—HUMPTY DUMPTY—Mr. G. L. Fox and Kiralfy Troupe. Matinée at 2.

UNION-SQUARE THEATRE.—VARIETY PERFORMANCE. Matinée at 1½.

WOOD'S MUSEUM.—DRAMATIC PERFORMANCE AND CURIOSITIES—Afternoon and Evening.

P. T. BARNUM'S MUSEUM, MENAGERIE AND CIRCUS.—Niagara Rink, day and evening.

NEW-YORK CIRCUS.—EQUESTRIAN, GYMNASTIC AND ATHLETIC FEATS. Matinée at 2½.

NIXON'S SOUTHERN CIRCUS.—EQUESTRIAN, GYMNASTIC AND ATHLETIC FEATS. Matinée at 2½.

BRYANT'S OPERA-HOUSE.—NEGRO MINSTRELSY—FARCES.

STEINWAY HALL.—THE MESSIAH, (Oratorio.)—Miss Clara Louise Kellogg.

The New-York Times.

TERMS TO MAIL SUBSCRIBERS.

The DAILY TIMES, per annum, including the Sunday Edition.... [illegible]
The DAILY TIMES, per annum, exclusive of the Sunday Edition.... [illegible]
The Sunday Edition, per annum.... [illegible]
The SEMI-WEEKLY, per annum.... [illegible]
The SEMI-WEEKLY, two copies, one year.... [illegible]
The SEMI-WEEKLY, ten copies one year, (an extra copy to getter-up of club).... [illegible]
The WEEKLY TIMES, per annum.... [illegible]
The WEEKLY TIMES, five copies, one year.... [illegible]
The WEEKLY TIMES, ten copies, one year, (an extra copy to getter-up of club).... [illegible]
The WEEKLY TIMES, twenty copies, one year, (an extra copy to getter-up of club).... [illegible]
The WEEKLY TIMES, fifty copies, one year.... [illegible]
The EUROPEAN EDITION, per annum, postage extra.... [illegible]

The SEMI-WEEKLY and WEEKLY mailed one year to clergymen at the lowest club rates.

Subscriptions to either of our editions received for a less length of time than one year at the yearly rate.

Additions may be made to clubs at club rates.

These prices are invariable. Remit in drafts on New-York or Post-office Money Orders if possible and where neither of these can be procured send the money in a registered letter.

THE NEW-YORK TIMES,
New-York City.

Notices.

We cannot notice anonymous communications. In all cases we require the writer's name and address, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith. We cannot under any circumstances return rejected communications, nor can we undertake to preserve manuscripts.

To Advertisers.

☞ For the accommodation of up-town residents, advertisements for insertion in the TIMES will be received at No. 54 West 32d-st., junction of Broadway and 6th-av., and No. 1,241 Broadway, between 30th and 31st sts., at same rates as are charged at office of publication.

☞ The NEW-YORK TIMES has opened a branch office in Brooklyn at No. 4 Court-st. opposite the City Hall, where advertisements will be received until 5 P. M.

We are glad to learn that many kindly gifts have been sent to the Children's Aid Society in response to our appeals. Yesterday we received a check from "Jennie" for ten dollars, half for the Society in question, and half for the Five Points Mission. "J. C." sends us $1 75. Let it be remembered that for less than five cents a head, the poor starving children can be supplied with what is a rare luxury to them—a warm meal. We recently visited several of the institutions under the management of the Children's Aid Society, and if our readers could have looked on at the touching sights there presented, they would not be slow to unbutton their pockets. In one school the children—none of them above eleven or twelve years old—had recently been given a warm dinner by the kindness of some visitor. They had frequently asked their teachers since when they would have a similar treat! These children were miserably clad—some of them looked like bundles of rags—and the only food they get is what this Society can manage to procure for them. The sum of $12,000 was appropriated to it by the Legislature—but the Ring thieves thought the money would be better in their own pockets, and the poor children got none of it. So much for the "charity" of TWEED & Co., of which we have sometimes heard so much. Today, when most of our readers sit down to a good dinner, and delight in making their own children happy, we hope a generous thought will be given to the friendless outcasts of the streets. We shall still be happy to receive subscriptions, small or great; or they may be forwarded direct to Mr. C. L. BRACE, Children's Aid Society, No. 19 East Fourth-street. We once more assure our readers that every cent they contribute will be spent for the immediate benefit of the homeless and friendless children for whom we appeal.

The Suggestions of the Committee of Seventy.

The public has now before it the main portions of a new charter prepared by the Committee of Seventy. The work is, as will be seen, incomplete, and this fact will be borne in mind in judging of its details. The suggestions made have one prime advantage. They originate with a trustworthy body of sincere and capable men, possessed of some valuable experience, and enjoying the confidence of the public. They are on this account to be treated, not without candid criticism, certainly, but with respect. The existence and character of the Committee of Seventy gave to this community the opportunity of obtaining a new charter. The Committee's views as to what that instrument should be, will have something of the same kind and degree of weight accorded to its views of the candidates at the last election; and its general guidance in this matter, though not so completely binding as in the former instance, is a great advantage to the vast body of citizens resolute for reform which make up its peculiar and powerful constituency.

The charter of the Committee has, moreover, excellent features of its own. It does away with the multiplicity of local elective offices, the filling of which has for years past been the despair of busy citizens, and the opportunity of professional politicians. It gives the chief magistrate of the City an important voice in the management of the Government, without putting that Government entirely in his hands. It provides by the method proposed for electing Aldermen and School Commissioners, and for choosing the various Commissioners by the Aldermen, for a more just representation of the people, and against the irresponsibility which has accompanied both the rule by naked majorities and the "bipartisan" Boards. This, it is true, is a bold step, but it is one sustained by the conclusions of very many able students and by conspicuous recent experience both in England and the State of Pennsylvania. That it has won the approbation of the Committee, which is made up of men of common sense, and not theorists, is nearly conclusive of its claim to a fair trial.

The Committee's charter provides for governing the City in the City, and by our own representatives. It avoids both the unpopular and evasive system of Metropolitan Commissions and the absurd fiction of an impossible supervision of our affairs by the Legislature. Upon the Government thus returned to ourselves it seeks to impose the essential check of ample publicity; requiring the publication of the action of the Aldermen, the propositions of committees, the transactions of departments, and the substance of bids and contracts, and this in a form which avoids the bribery of the Press by useless advertising. It endeavors to further check extravagance, corruption, or neglect, by providing that any Justice of the Supreme Court, in the First District, may institute a judicial investigation into the conduct of officials on the application of certain financial officers, or of three Aldermen. It also gives the citizens the right to recover damages resulting from malfeasance of officials. It contains strict definition of the crime of bribery, and removes the difficulty of obtaining testimony in such matters by allowing the Court to compel it, even though it implicates witnesses. It prohibits borrowing on the City's credit, except within the limits of one year's revenues, or by special act of the Legislature. And finally, it seeks to provide checks on the indiscriminate alienation of the public property or funds for charitable or educational purposes, and to give the City an interest in such institutions as are aided, proportioned to the aid extended.

This enumeration of the principal [illegible] of the Committee's charter shows clearly enough that it is the fruit of study, that its purposes are such as all good citizens must approve, that it is reasonably consistent in its character, and that it has dealt with the one great evil of our Municipal situation—overwhelming proportion of ignorant voters, saturated with prejudice, and without direct and conscious interest in good government—with boldness and intelligence.

It is not, nevertheless, in our opinion, without faults and omissions. The provision for separate municipal elections in the Spring we consider of doubtful wisdom. The object, of course, is to present the issues involved in City Government by themselves, and thus to obtain an independent judgment on them. The error, we think, is in supposing that an adequate vote can be obtained in the Spring, on those issues alone, and in further supposing that voting on those issues, when the mass of electors turn out at general elections, may not be done just as independently as if the electors came out to vote for City officers alone. The fact that nearly twenty-five thousand voters who sustained the Democratic State ticket in this City voted the Reform local ticket, is an illustration of what may be expected in the future.

It is a serious question whether, with the publicity required by the charter—the provisions for which might be reconsidered with advantage—and with the prime safeguard of minority representation, it is necessary to have the entire City Government exposed to change every year. A strong objection to this is the indisposition of citizens, absorbed in other pursuits, to give so much time as is necessary to attend properly to annual elections; and another objection is the instability occasioned to all extended measures of local administration by frequent changes.

The provisions for securing accountability before the Courts are not so strong as they should be. The issuing of an order for inquiry on proper application should be made imperative, not optional, and the privilege of application should be extended. The result of the inquiry, if adverse to the official summoned, should be also defined.

Lastly, the principles just applied to the civil service of the United States should be applied to the subordinate appointments. If it be said that they are an experiment, we would point to the fact that they are sustained by an experience as ample and authority as high as the principle of minority representation so courageously and wisely proposed.

Who Ought Not to be Speaker.

The leaders of political corruption and Legislative jobbery throughout the State are said to have settled upon THOS. G. ALVORD for Speaker of the next Assembly, and are working with all their might—and, we fear, with too good a prospect of success—to secure his election. The salt monopolists of Syracuse, whose salaried champion and attorney Mr. ALVORD has been for years, have joined their forces with the canal Ring, and, with the aid of the Fenton members elect, the lobbyists, and other corrupt combinations, they expect to secure his nomination in caucus on the first ballot. The Fenton men, pure and simple, notwithstanding all their boasting, do not number a majority of the Republican members-elect of the next Assembly; but they hope to gain a number of votes for their candidate among the "independent" Republicans, by representing the superior claims of Mr. ALVORD to the Speakership, arising from his great legislative experience, and acknowledged ability as a parliamentarian. These representations ought not, at the present time, to have a feather's weight in the mind of any honest and independent Republican, when urged in behalf of a man like ALVORD. What the coming Legislature needs for Speaker is not so much a great parliamentarian as an honest man. The overwhelming victory of the Republican Party at the last election, by which that party secured a two-thirds vote in both Houses, meant in the minds of the people Reform—not merely reform in this City, but reform in the Legislature; and, if the Republican Party expects to retain its ascendency, it must not commence its work at Albany this Winter by electing for Speaker of the Assembly a notorious corruptionist and intimate associate of the Tammany thieves. If any member of the last two Legislatures is to be supported for Speaker, it should be one whose record is absolutely spotless, and who is personally above suspicion. Such a man THOMAS G. ALVORD is not, and no man who has been associated with him on the floor of the Assembly for the last two Winters will pretend that he is.

A very large proportion of the next Assembly is to consist of new members. We assume that a majority of the Republican members, on whom will devolve the election of a Speaker, are honest men, and heartily in favor of promoting the reforms so clearly indicated by the popular vote at the last election. The best test that these members can have of the fitness or unfitness of the candidates who are urged upon them for the Speakership, is the kind and character of the influence brought to bear in their favor. We will venture to say that every corrupt combination, every "Ring," every legislative jobber, every lobbyist, every man who thrives on corruption at Albany, will be found urging the claims of ALVORD. There are some who might, perhaps, prefer HUSTED, of Westchester, if he were a candidate, but HUSTED is understood to have withdrawn from the contest, and turned over his strength to ALVORD, in consideration of his being made Chairman of the Committee of Ways and Means. Even the Democratic members, with the exception of the few who were elected on the Reform ticket from this City, will scarcely be able to conceal their preference for ALVORD from any member who keeps his eyes and ears open. The Tammany members elect from this City are already boasting that, with the aid of the Fenton Republicans, and with "Old Salt" in the Speaker's chair, they are going to have things pretty much to their liking in the next Legislature. Should such a misfortune as the election of ALVORD occur, their boast will not be a vain one.

No one not familiar with legislative proceedings can estimate to what extent legislation may be shaped, and corruption either prevented or encouraged, by the Speaker. The leading Committees of the next Assembly, such as Ways and Means, Cities, Railroads, Commerce, Canals and Claims, ought, every one of them, to be composed of men who are known to be earnest reformers, and are unapproachable by lobby influence. Unless a majority, at least, of each committee are men of this stamp, one-half of the proposed measures of reform will be nipped in the bud through delay, neglect, or refusal to make favorable reports; while jobs, "strikes," and corrupt bills of all sorts will issue from the hands of the committees, and lumber up the files of members. Who believes that the reformers and honest men would have control of these committees if ALVORD were Speaker? Every one of them would be made up in the interest of the lobby. Let no "independent" Republican, therefore, be inveigled into voting for "Old Salt" on the plea that he is an experienced legislator and a great parliamentarian. Let them take up some man who is not identified with either of these leaders—a man like HENRY SMITH, of Albany, for instance, or HORATIO N. TWOMBLY, of this City, or Mr. STRAHAN, of Orange County. But under no circumstances should they support ALVORD for Speaker, or any man like him.

Ill-Used Stockholders.

It is matter of remark that Superintendent MILLER's reports, even where they simply give the figures returned by the insurance companies, fail to satisfy the reasonable curiosity of stockholders. Things are either jumbled promiscuously into a heap, or so solidly massed as to be impervious to anything like a critical investigation into the facts. This is especially true of the returns permitted to be made regarding the expenditures of the companies. The main-stay of public confidence, and even of stockholders' security in these corporations, is the honest and economical administration, by the officers, of the trust committed to them. But little or no supervision is exercised over the expenditures, and at the end of the year, when annual statements are made, aggregates of alarming proportions are presented without the least regard to specification or detail.

For example, the returns for 1870 of the fire insurance companies, made in accordance with the Superintendent's form of blanks, group under only six heads the entire expenditures of management of 109 joint-stock companies, aggregating the immense sum of $8,596,517 32. The only particulars asked for by Mr. MILLER, or given by the companies, is the following, (which we give with the aggregates belonging to each:) Officers' salaries, $2,481,321 81; commissions, $2,873,983 94; taxes, $1,101,393 07; office expenses, $2,389,870 33. The separate statements shed no clearer light on these expenditures, for they furnish no subdivision of these very general items. If we take up the return made by the largest of the companies, we find such lumping statements as the following: Losses paid, $1,289,415 84; cash dividends actually paid, $200,220; commissions and brokerage, $299,021 01; salaries and other charges of officers, clerks, and other employes, $283,089 95 (!); taxes, $109,661 24; all other payments, (unspecified!) $162,230 14; making a total of $2,335,688 18. It may well be that a further subdivision of several of these items, would materially assist both stockholders and the general public, in coming to a definite conclusion as to the management of the companies in which they were interested. And we see no reason why those persons whose capital has been embarked upon so precarious a sea as fire or marine underwriting, should not be permitted to know how much their servants are paid for risking and losing their money.

We call Mr. MILLER's attention to this subject, because the present practice of his Department is in the direction of concealment and mystification, instead of being in the interest of those who want to know all about the way in which their money goes. If stockholders cannot get dividends, they are entitled at least to information in lieu thereof. To recur to the figures quoted above, why should nearly $300,000 be paid to a few officers and clerks, as against $200,000 to an army of patient shareholders; or why should the official reports be silent as to the apportionment of this vast sum? Right under Mr. MILLER's eyes, and we assume not without his knowledge, this Company, or rather its directors, last year made the officers a present of $100,000 over and above their already large salaries. But there is no word or figure in Mr. MILLER's report, or in the Company's statement, which will tell the plucked stockholders this fact. When a Company is paying out from thirty to forty per cent. of its entire premium income for office expenses, salaries, and unmentionable [illegible] as a majority of the New-York Fire Companies are annually doing—we think it is Mr. MILLER's duty to require such returns, and publish such reports, as will enable interested parties to get at the manner in which the spoils are divided. And, considering the fact that on the first of the present month the annual statements are to be prepared, we commend the matter to the Superintendent's attention. A little more scrutiny on his part, would save millions of dollars to stockholders, and strengthen our companies by compelling their officers to exercise economy.

A Dock Commissioners' Meeting.

It is only necessary to watch the public proceedings of the Dock Commission, and to study a little their published reports, to find full evidence of their inefficiency. Take, for instance, their meeting of last week, which was fully reported in the journals of last Friday, and could anything be adduced against the Commission more damaging than their own words and actions?

They were evidently a good deal panic-stricken, on account of the exposures we have made and the light we have thrown on the administration of their Department; and so, perhaps, they were somewhat excusable for the ludicrous exhibition they made of themselves. Their chronic indecision showed itself in a very striking way. After spending a whole afternoon in solemn debate around the big green table, which they have pounded for the last two years, they finally and characteristically decided—to do nothing. They backed and filled, hemmed and hawed, explained their motives, defined their positions, justified themselves to themselves, and asserted their unadulterated patriotism. "Commissioner AGNEW," so the report reads, "acknowledged that the situation was extremely disagreeable. If he had the control of twenty millions of dollars, he would not pay out one dollar of it injudiciously. When he took the position he occupied, (salary, ten thousand dollars a year,) he did not take it for the sake of any salary attached to it. He had been a merchant for the past thirty years in this City," &c., &c. Mr. HENRY thought it a "shame that the Department should be compelled to retard its work on the docks," (what work?) simply because certain men had stolen money out of the public Treasury." Mr. School Commissioner WOOD "wanted to be put right on the record," and also said that "it was true that a great deal of the City's money had been stolen; but not a cent of the money of the Department of Docks was gone." Mr. HUNT and Mr. AGNEW "explained their votes." Mr. HENRY A. SMITH—who was unavoidably absent, where we do not pretend to say—could undoubtedly, if he had been present, have offered some explanations on *his* part, and perhaps, with his Tammany cunning, helped his fellows out of the scrape. We observe, however, that the Commissioners failed to allude to their fugitive colleague or to "explain" why they elected him Treasurer, and why they continue to keep him in that place. If it had not been for certain soothing and precautionary remarks of Mr. Commissioner HENRY, we fear they might have been led into premature action, and perhaps have been guilty of the folly of pestering the Controller with legal proceedings. Mr. HENRY, who is a lawyer, perhaps saw the futility of this at a glance.

The meeting was held to consider what action should be taken with reference to the refusal of the Controller to supply the Department with another million. A committee had waited upon Mr. GREEN to ask him for the money, "but could get no satisfactory answer (we quote from Mr. WOOD's fiery resolutions) from him in relation to the said one million dollars." Mr. WOOD declared that he wished the people to know "who was to blame for the delay in prosecuting the work on the docks," viz.: Mr. GREEN. He therefore proposed to resolve to apply for a mandamus compelling Mr. GREEN to raise the money. These belligerent resolutions, however, the Commission had not the courage to pass. Mr. HENRY "didn't feel like forcing money out of an unwilling officer." Mr. AGNEW "would rather not vote for the resolutions, in the hope that the Controller might soon see that he was not clearly in the right in the stand he had taken." Messrs. AGNEW and HUNT charged that "the fault of the present 'hitch' lay solely with the Controller." The purpose of all this talk about the Controller is evident enough. It is the effort of the Dock Commissioners to escape the responsibility of their own inefficiency. With their ship near a lee-shore, these crafty Commissioners are endeavoring to put anchors to the windward, so that their leaky bark may outride the storm of popular disappointment. They will fail, however, in their attempt. The public will sustain Mr. GREEN in every rightful effort to keep any more of the City's money from going into the hands of a Commission so notoriously inefficient as this Dock Department, and which still keeps as its Treasurer so corrupt a man as HENRY A. SMITH.

A Duty to Society.

The projectors of the Charity Ball—which, as every New-Yorker knows, is regarded as the most brilliant and "select" of the public balls of the season—are accustomed to show each year great and commendable tact in the selection of the names on the large list of lady and gentlemen "managers." They strive to include in the list representatives of the different cliques, and, to some extent, even different strata of upper New-York social life, so that all shall give a willing hand to help the benevolent cause. This year, however, they have—from inadvertence, let us hope—committed the error of publishing in association with the names of a large number of the most reputable people in the City, the name of one "manager" who ought never to be tolerated in decent society. Perhaps unguardedly, but certainly, they have insulted public opinion, by making OAKEY HALL one of the "managers" of the Charity Ball.

Here is a man who, in his first estate, was nothing but a light-headed political trickster, and who now stands condemned by his fellow-citizens as a confederate of notorious thieves—proved to be guilty of the prostitution of a high public office, yet conspicuously introduced into the company of honest and reputable people, by men and women of character and position. It is true that Mr. BELMONT is doing his utmost to prevent HALL's expulsion from the Union Club—from which he has not the decency to resign—but that does not condone the offence of the projectors of the Charity Ball, who ought in the interests of good morals and respectable society, to have rejected the name of such a man with contempt.

If every man, who, in New-York, was disposed to grossly and wantonly violate a public or private trust, or lend himself to mean and swindling enterprises, saw ahead of him, whenever his conduct should be exposed, the certainty of loss of position among respectable people of his acquaintance, the tone of morals would speedily improve in this City. We should hear less of political and corporate corruption, if every such offender felt sure that all his respectable friends would pass him by in the streets, first turn their backs on him in their clubs, and then turn him out altogether, and refuse him admission to their houses, as unfit for the society of decent people. There has been a great social upheaval here within the past few months, let us remind the Charity-Ball projectors, and honest people are really in earnest in their determination to reform old abuses, and to punish the scoundrels who have held their offices only to cheat the public and steal their money.

It so happens that HALL is the only member of the Ring whom social ostracism by decent people can much affect, and on that account it should be used in his case. TWEED's friends in the Sixth Ward are not very likely to ostracise him because he is a great thief, for too many of them are in that line themselves, only in a smaller way; and he never has associated privately with people who cared for their reputations, except, perhaps, when some "high-toned" speculator or real estate owner met him very privately to consider a plot for money-making, or to arrange for a mutually profitable reduction of an assessment.

But with HALL it is different. He has been admitted to the society of honest people, has been allowed in their drawing-rooms, and has wormed himself under friendly guidance into their clubs. Now that he is held by the public to be guilty of the basest offenses, and only keeps the office he disgraces because the Legislature is not in session to turn him out, it is high time for society to banish him entirely to the company of the Bohemians who laugh at his empty jests around the congenial board of the "Lotus Club."

The Political Epidemic.

Another outbreak has occurred of that peculiar epidemic so prevalent among Tammany politicians since election. It has already deprived us of several persons whose names have become familiar to us in connection with the reports of investigating committees and the City accounts. It has cut off from us both the SWEENY's, "HUGHEY" SMITH, INGERSOLL and GARVEY, and now we have to mourn the loss of the illustrious CORNELIUS CORSON and CHARLES E. WILBOUR.

Both these individuals were prominently connected with the New-York Printing Company. Both of them had suddenly risen from obscurity and comparative penury to affluence and notoriety. The public felt confident that their services had not been properly rewarded—that, notwithstanding the fortunes they had acquired, "they had not had justice done them," and they were anxious that they should receive their reward.

The sudden change in the temperature of New-York has, however, been too much for their sensitive organization, impaired as it was by their labors for the public good. They have found it absolutely necessary to seek a more equable and bracing clime, and have sought it, summarily and secretly in Canada, where only can be found that steady temperature below zero which seems to be necessary to build up the exhausted systems of the Tammany chiefs. These sudden departures cannot but cast a feeling of uncertainty over the public mind. Who can tell who may go next? Great solicitation is expressed for SANDS. He looks healthy and strong, but no healthier and no stronger than the SWEENYS. Appearances are deceitful, and particularly in Mr. SANDS' case, as the venerable PETER COOPER has of late publicly acknowledged. Let us, however, hope that our SANDS will be spared to us—at least until Mr. O'CONOR and Mr. TILDEN have completed their duties.

MINOR TOPICS.

The inhabitants of the district between Thirty-fourth and Seventy-ninth streets will have to spend their Christmas under difficulties. That region of the City is now plunged in total darkness. On Saturday evening all the lights went out, and fathers of families were running about in every direction in search of candles. The Gas Companies sometimes seem to be putting us in training for a trial of this kind, by giving us as little gas as they can for a great deal of money. But people were not prepared for sudden darkness. Yesterday boys were hawking candles from house to house, and charging twenty cents each for them. There was not a candlestick to be had at any store. Mr. DELMONICO was besieged for help from morning till night, and although he did his best to help people out of their scrape, he could not oblige half the applicants. We should advise diners out this evening to take their own candle with them—it will be the most appropriate Christmas present they can make to their hosts and hostesses. The Gas Company holds out a faint hope that it will be able to supply a little gas until 12 o'clock at night, but it will not do to place too much dependence on that promise. Tradesmen who have any candles to sell had better open their stores this morning if they want to do a good business.

Is human ingenuity unequal to the task of devising some new and amusing toy for children? Every year poor *paterfamilias* goes hunting over the toy-shops for trifles to give to his children, and every year he finds exactly the same things offered to him which he has been buying all his life. Old "stock" is brought out and polished up—a little fresh paint is daubed over the dolls' faces, and the springs of jack-in-the-box are mended. There is the sheep that utters a plaintive bleat when its neck is pushed down, the hen that emits a dismal wail when you pull a string, the Santa Claus whose inside opens to receive candies, the Noah's ark, the drum, the horn, and the box of nine-pins. But a child who has arrived at the mature age of eight has seen all these things over and over again, and is weary of them. Germany sends us thousands of toys, but made nothing new. The youngsters look over your store of presents, and tell you with a blasé air that they saw them all last "birday," or "Tanksgiving." The toy-dealers must be rather tired themselves of seeing the same old assortment stuck about their stores. Will not somebody or other try to prepare a new sensation for the children by next Christmas?

The account of Sing Sing, which we publish today, may not be very lively Christmas reading; but the story is at least an interesting one, and people ought to know what goes on in the chief prison of the State. Our correspondent had the courage to try some of the instruments of torture on himself, and his description of the thumb-pulley is consequently more vivid than we have ever seen before. There is urgent need for the revision of our prison discipline—if anybody doubts it, let him read the excellent article on our fifth page.

On the 15th of next month the United States Supreme Court will deliver the decision sustaining the constitutionality of the Legal-tender act. It will be seen from the announcement in our Washington dispatches that the Court stands but one more in favor than against this decision, and that those who oppose it include some of the ablest and most experienced of the Judges. The opinions to be delivered will pass into the history of our Government as among the most important ever given, and the bare majority by which the result is reached will cause them to be studied with intense interest.

Tammany politicians are making a great effort to induce the Judges of the Superior Court to fill the place of Chief Clerk of the Court, made vacant by the resignation of the fugitive from Justice, JAMES M. SWEENY, before the 1st of January, when the two reform Judges just elected will take their seats upon the Bench. Sheriff BRENNAN, it is said, is trying to make an arrangement by which he is to support JOSEPH MEEKS, the son-in-law of Judge MONELL, for Chief Clerk, on condition that his relative, M. J. MALONEY, shall receive the place of Deputy Clerk, now held by MEEKS. MALONEY has just been removed from the Finance Department by Controller GREEN, and both he and MEEKS have long been adherents of the Tammany Ring. MEEKS' name was signed to every one of the fraudulent naturalization papers that were scattered broadcast over the State in the campaign of 1868, and which cheated Gen. GRANT out of the electoral vote of New-York, and imposed JOHN T. HOFFMAN on the State as Governor. MEEKS and MALONEY ought to be made to retire from office with their "Ring" masters, instead of being promoted to better berths, and the Superior Court Judges will best consult their own interest, as well as that of their constituents, by delaying the appointment of SWEENY's successor until the newly-elected Judges can have a voice in the selection.

The *World* yesterday wound up one of its exercises in broken English by this remarkable saying: "*Es uno duse omnes.*" This is, perhaps, an improvement, but it is rather rash in the *World* to try any Latin until it has acquired the rudiments of its mother tongue. Its ignorance is not very creditable to its Johnsonian model.

The reports of the principal Massachusetts railroads, recently made to the Railroad Commissioner of that State, present a satisfactory result as compared with similar returns in other States. There has been an increase of passenger traffic on all the lines with the exception of the Fitchburg. This line appears to have lost eight per cent. The total number of passengers carried by eight roads during the year ending September, 1871, was 26,302,223, showing a gain of eleven and a half per cent. over last year. The gross earnings were $17,302,480, an increase of nine per cent. During the same period the goods traffic increased from 4,189,000 to 4,940,000 tons, nearly seventeen per cent. In consideration of the increased earnings, the companies deserve credit for a more liberal treatment of shippers, and for manifesting a greater desire to accommodate passengers. This we gather from the circumstance that last year the net income was twenty-seven per cent. of the gross receipts, while this year it is only twenty-eight and a half per cent. We find, also, that Boston has gained most by the increased traffic. The roads, which have their terminus in that city, branch through the State in such a way as to encourage the idea—if it has not heretofore been pretty well established—that nothing good can be had out of Boston. The result is that people will run to town for the most trifling knickknacks, and in this way local travel has been greatly augmented from year to year.

GERMANY.

The Recent Naval Estimates—Count Roon's Ambition—A New Naval Minister—Growth of the Sea Weapon of the Empire.

From Our Own Correspondent.

BERLIN, Tuesday, Dec. 5, 1871.

The recent discussion of the naval estimates brought the ticklish question of the German Navy once more before the public. In opposition to the Government proposal, the demanded sum, voted in full, was charged to the French indemnity. But that was a matter of little importance; the real question at issue was the object of the naval establishment, the opinions on this point still vacillating between naval supremacy and the humble functions of a coast guard. Count ROON had once more to encounter attacks on the score of the part taken by the navy in the late war, when not only did the practical service lay in very little honor, but the administration was so badly managed that, for instance, the Imperial Commission intrusted with its consideration met only four months after the outbreak of the war. Speaking for the Ministry, Count ROON renounced for the present all ambitions for naval supremacy, leaving that question to time, though seemingly not averse to gradual progress, whatever the desire now is to make Germany a [illegible] naval Power of the second order, [illegible] only to protect her own coasts, and harbors and the merchant marine [illegible] in distant seas, and [illegible] States, who set the German flag at defiance [illegible] the German [illegible] all [illegible] quarrels. Herr von ROON considered very likely to occur in the immediate future, and as a sequel to this announcement we hear today of the expedition of several iron-clads to Brazil, to enforce respect to the German nationality, a report which, however, requires confirmation. In European politics Count ROON designated a second-rank navy as of as great importance as abroad, because a fresh war is after all not improbable, and in that event it threatens to be a war not of individual States, but of alliances, in which naval actions will relieve the monotony of marches and battles on shore. In such a case, argues the Minister, Germany must have a squadron of some force to offer to its maritime ally. The navy is certainly engaging the attention of Government in an unprecedented degree. The change so long contemplated has been executed at last; a special Naval Minister has been designated, and will be gazetted in a few days. It is a landsman, of course, Gen. VON STOSCH, the presumptive successor to Count ROON as War Minister, and hitherto his adlatus in Parliament. As a consequence, Admiral VON JACHMANN, up to now intrusted with the naval administration, has resigned. VON STOSCH has already entered upon his new functions, and is busy inspecting docks and vessels at Kiel. The semi-official *North German Gazette* prints a report on the progress of the German Navy, in which it claims for that establishment a growth of unprecedented vigor. No navy has ever made such strides to perfection in so short a time. The great port on the Jahde is completed and ready for every emergency. The docks of that place have lately launched the iron-clad advice-ship *Loreley*, and are at work over the iron-clad frigate *Great Elector*. The naval station at Wilhelmshaven, destined to be the head-quarters on the German Ocean, is likewise in full trim, having absorbed the naval depots of Geestemunde and Stralsund. Here are the torpedo-detachment, the sea battalion, and other training corps. Kiel is not finished but in active progress, and its docks will, in no long time, launch the *Frederick the Great*, an iron-clad of the *Great Elector* class, a third vessel of the same size being constructed by a private company at Stettin. The advice-ships *Ariadne*, *Albatross*, and *Nautilus* are building at Dantzic, also a corvette, *Louise*, and orders have recently been given to the same quarter to begin shortly the construction of two other advice-ships, *Freya* and *Thusnelda*, and of two gun-boats. Moreover, two iron-clads, of the largest class, are in building in Mr. SAMUDA's yard in England. The fortification of war ports the report states, to be progressing with a speed unequaled in history. Only the training business has been retarded by the war, but parties are doing their best to make up for lost time. Two vessels manned with cadets are crossing the Atlantic, and two brigs with cabin boys are cruising in Portuguese and Spanish waters. The report ends with an enumeration of the vessels and foreign service, which shows the German Navy to have cast its arms pretty well round the whole globe; though the several stations had and were have only a vessel a piece or so to boast; at any rate, the skeleton is complete and the germ is developing. The German Navy is to have a specialty, which is treated with the same mysteriousness and partiality as was in former times the now almost obsolete needle-gun and the still formidable Krupp cannon. This specialty is a torpedo-boat, to be multiplied according to success, so as eventually to swarm about the German coast, like bees around a hive. The dimensions being forty feet by six, the boat is to have the shape of a cigar, and for safety to move only at night and under water, with only the funnel and a rotatory tube protruding, the steersman protruding. Then the darkness of the night will conceal, especially as the vessel is intended to move at extraordinary speed. It is shot-proof, of course, wholly composed of iron plates, but not of very great thickness. The engine, heated with petroleum, is aloft, at the thick end, the rudder being at the thin point, corresponding to the bow. To enable the steersman to see where he is steering to, there is a small hole drilled into the shot-proof rotating tube, through which he can peer. The make and application of the torpedo is treated as a secret. The weapons will be concealed in the hold of the vessel, whose crew will comprise three or four men, their office being to approach hostile vessels cruising in German waters unawares, apply their torpedoes, and be off.

AMUSEMENTS.

Notes of Amusements.

Matinées and evening performances are given today at all the City theatres. At Wood's Museum, three representations are to occur.... "Julius Cæsar" will be acted at Booth's, tonight.... Herr WACHTEL sings this afternoon at the Grand Opera-house, and Mr. and Mrs. FLORENCE appear there in "The Ticket-of-Leave Man," this evening.... At Steinway Hall, "The Messiah" will be interpreted by Miss KELLOGG and the New-York Mendelssohn Union.... A pantomime called "The Red Witch" is mentioned as the most notable feature of the programme of the Union-square Theatre.... At the New-York Circus, a grand Christmas pantomime, entitled "Goody Two Shoes," will be the chief attraction afternoon and evening, until further notice.

Lecture by Mr. Wendell Phillips.

On Thursday night, Mr. WENDELL PHILLIPS is to lecture at Steinway Hall, before the Mercantile Library Association. The subject will be "Street Life in Europe," and the address will not be delivered again in New-York this season. Mr. PHILLIPS is sure to be greeted by an appreciative audience.

The Illness of Mr. Jesse Grant.

The Cincinnati *Gazette* of Thursday gives the following particulars of the sudden attack of illness upon the President's father, from which, later accounts say, he has partly recovered:

"Mr. JESSE R. GRANT, father of the President, was stricken with paralysis in the Covington Post-office, yesterday afternoon, about 1 o'clock, and fell to the floor, where he remained for nearly half an hour, unable to speak, and apparently insensible. He was conveyed in that condition to his home in Greenup-street, near Fifth, by some of the clerks in the office. We called at his residence about 4 o'clock yesterday afternoon, and found him sitting up in a chair, and able to talk a little. He did not seem to regard his case as a serious one. He informed us that he had been in his usual health recently, though for some days past his appetite has been poor. Dr. THOMAS had been sent for, but had not arrived when we left. Mr. GRANT's age is seventy-six years. At 9 o'clock last evening Mr. GRANT was resting easy."

DISCIPLINE

Sing Sing Prison.

ALBANY, Tuesday, Dec. 12, 1871.

As I drove up to Sing Sing Prison, last Friday, the long white Dissectors building, with its sentinel boxes, perched around on every conceivable, its guard-house, well stored with muskets, pistols and ammunition, and the guard, rifle in hand, pacing up and down—save one—were the impressions of a military barrack than a prison. But any such ideas were rudely dispelled at the door of the jail. "The Way of Transgressors is Hard," is the greeting of Sing Sing to the wretched convict as he steps, perhaps for the first time, within the portals of a prison. (Of the 473 new arrivals at the prison in the year 1870 no less than 417 were what are technically called "first convictions.") Cannot stern justice, without pandering to maudlin sentiment, think of some more encouraging, more charitable quotation—one breathing more of forgiveness—to inscribe over the jails to which she consigns offenders against the law? To those hardened by a long career of crime it does not appear. They disregard such lunch-stuff, and often, after they have regained their liberty, make a joke of it in their favorite resorts. Those to whom a prison sentence is a new sensation, and who are often horrified and distressed at their position, must be chilled and discouraged on reading it. Charity would turn away her eyes from it and exclaim: How many who read these words are or should be objects of our sympathy! But Sing Sing knows neither charity nor sympathy. Every one of its inmates is, to the callous eye of authority, a law-breaker and nothing else. The majority belong to the very worst class of criminals, and the unfortunate minority suffer in consequence.

Sing Sing, as a State prison, labors under serious and irremediable disadvantages, some of them natural. It is the worst located and worst arranged place of incarceration that human brain ever planned. Standing directly on the bank of the Hudson, only a short run from the town of Sing Sing, with the Hudson River Railroad in a cutting immediately in front of it; surrounded, not by prison walls, but by hills, quarries, creeks, caves and gorges, it presents to the convict continual temptation to attempt to escape. This is not only a bad thing for the convict, but entails a vast expenditure on the State in the shape of salaries for a small army of keepers and guards, while it frequently results in the shooting down of the prisoners. Prisoners have sometimes sprung on to a passing freight-train. It is only a few months since a notorious gang got away by jumping on board a propeller which came up to the dock, and steaming away for the Jersey woods. Some of these are still lying helpless in the hospital ward of the prison; one of them with two bullets in his body. The prison is altogether too unprotected, and on too large a scale for effective government and supervision. Twelve hundred men, and one hundred women are often confined there. Such a body of convicts is unwieldly and unmanageable. The authorities themselves complain of the excessive numbers committed to their charge, and point to the generally dead character of the prisoners as necessitating a very stringent régime, in order to enable them to preserve proper discipline.

To guard the 1,180 prisoners, the average number last year, cost for officers' salaries $89,681 25 a year. The total ordinary prison expenditure is $264,226 92, including one item, "miscellaneous," of $18,505 43. This last amount is far too large to be so generalized. Compare these figures with those of the report of the Albany Penitentiary, issued a few days ago. There the number of prisoners has averaged 514 through the year. The total expenditure for their guardianship, clothing, maintenance, &c., was $90,490 62, (no miscellaneous,) as against $264,226 92 at Sing Sing for the same items. Though the number of convicts at Sing Sing is only about two and a quarter times as many as those at Albany, the ordinary expenditure is more than five and a half times as much, and yet Sing Sing, with all its force of guardians, cannot prevent the prisoners from constantly escaping. True, a large number of them are recaptured; but in twenty-five years only one prisoner has escaped from the Albany Penitentiary.

The prison buildings at Sing Sing stand on filled-in ground jutting out into the river, and form three sides of a square, the river side being open. The prison for males, which comprises the entire front, is 484 feet long, 43 feet wide, and 50 feet high. It contains 1,191 cells, built in six tiers, each cell being 7 feet long and 3 feet 6 inches wide. The prison is sometimes so crowded that the jailers have to place two prisoners in a cell. This is a very bad arrangement, and has led to more attempts at escape than anything else, from the opportunity of plotting which it affords. The prison for females, a separate building on the other side of the railroad, has 119 cells. At present the inmates of the prison number 1,074 men and 111 women. During last year 473 new prisoners found their way to the men's prison. Among them were 1 actor, 1 dentist, 1 lawyer, 2 broker, 2 teachers, 1 civil engineer, 70 accountants and clerks, (the report does not state how many of them received starvation wages, but one of the officials assured me that many a young clerk comes there who is driven to robbing his employer by the inability to live on the pittance paid him as salary,) 5 merchants, 1 preacher, 1 female musician, 1 publisher, 5 physicians, 1 sculptor, 1 deputy sheriff, 99 "no occupation," 3 "thieves," and 1 "loafer." These last, I presume, are little bits of pleasantry, either on the part of the prisoners or of the agent, Mr. RUSSELL. The names of the well-known and publicly-convicted Tammany thieves are conspicuous by their absence from the list of prisoners.

In the main square, running parallel with the main prison, are the kitchens and dining-hall. I saw the men at dinner. All dine together; and their close-cut hair, shaven faces, with a week's growth on them, and striped serge dress, many of them wearing the repulsive-looking iron collar and crown for punishment, present a curious but very unpleasing *coup d'œil*. It was Friday, and therefore fish day. The men seemed to eat heartily, though, judging from the uncooked fish I saw in the kitchen, they all must have been wofully thirsty as the afternoon drew on. However, as Mr. Weller tells us that it is folly to quarrel about horse-radish when you've got beef, I suppose the prisoners don't mind the excessive saltness of their dinner so long as a bucket of drinking water stands in each workshop. Still, they might prefer a little less of the saltpetre. The bread appeared to be of better quality than the fish. It is of the second grade of flour. So soon as dinner is over the various gangs, about twenty-five men to a gang, march with the lock-step from the dining-hall to the workshops, which are built in rows parallel with the north and south wings, to resume their daily labor. As one of the gangs passed me the keeper pointed out one JACK COUTER, a notorious counterfeiter. He is about fifty-five years of age, and has passed thirty-four years of his life in prison.

Shoe-making, saddlery, hardware, malleable iron, coffins, making and marble and limestone quarrying are the principal branches of industry carried on at the prison. The labor of the prisoners in the shops is let out to contractors at forty cents a day for each prisoner; but as his cost per day is 62½ cents, he entails a daily expenditure on the State Treasury of 22½ cents—dead loss. Only 300 male prisoners are employed by the contractors. At least 200 more would be available, if the contractors would take them, adding one hundred dollars a day, thirty thousand dollars a year, to the income of the prison. The contracts, however, which were made formerly for five years, now expire every year; and business men are apt to fight shy of putting up costly machinery, and going to other heavy expenses on a contract which they are by no means sure of getting renewed. All the shops are provided with the latest mechanical inventions for saving labor. In the office of one of the contractors, acting as clerk, I saw CHAUNCEY JOHNSON, the great bank-burglar, who has spent half his life in different prisons. He took me in with a fully professional glance in an instant, and kept his face turned away. In the hardware saddlery-shop I encountered VAN ERDEN, who gave the detectives so much trouble with his bond forgeries. He is a fair, squarely-built man, of medium height, and does not betray any phrenological evidences of his propensity for stealing. One hundred prisoners are engaged at present in working the quarries, which lie in the side of the hill, sloping up from the railroad track. The sales of material raised last year realized $68,044 99. This year the earnings of the quarries will be considerably less, in consequence of the Legislature having omitted to make the usual and necessary appropriation for carrying on the work. The quarries were only fully worked during the first four months of the year. Still, the agent thinks that while the total earnings of the prison will consequently be $30,000 less, the total expenditure will be decreased at least $20,000. Of the other prisoners, one hundred and fifty are old, or physically incapable of hard labor, and are employed in the halls and in cleaning cells, making beds, and other light occupations. From seventy to eighty more are cripples, or sick in the hospital; the rest are all usefully employed. Among the old men is a colored man named WM. JACKSON, who is ninety-seven years of age. He has been in the prison for twenty-eight years, on a life sentence for burglary. The old gentleman is hale for his years, and has the use of all his faculties, and, at his advanced age, says he would be glad of his release from prison, that he might see the world once more.

The female prison has at present 117 inmates. They are all, with the exception of those who do the cleaning, cooking, washing and ironing, employed in making those thin Summer striped and brown holland jackets which are as sure a sign of Summer as the lately-arrived swallow. But their labor is not very remunerative, the wholesale price of these articles, especially prison work, being very trifling. The contractors only pay 32½ cents a day for each prisoner's labor. Consequently there is always a deficiency to be provided for at the end of the year. Last year the deficiency amounted to $18,233 18. It will surprise some people to learn that two female prisoners escaped from the prison in 1870. There are seven women under sentence for life—six for murder, and one for manslaughter in the first degree. Their looks do not lead one to suppose them capable of such crimes. Many of the larceny prisoners have much more unprepossessing countenances, with one notable exception. In the sewing-room sat a girl of unusually attractive appearance—a beautiful face, elegant figure, soft brown hair and delicate complexion. In spite of her uncouth prison dress, she looked as though she had been born and bred among the *élite* of society—one of nature's noblewomen. "Yes," replied the official, in answer to my whispered remarks on her personal appearance and beauty, "she is a very pretty girl. There's no doubt of that. But," he added with an emphasis, "she's a very bad one. Why, Sir," he continued, "that girl is a married woman, and the mother of three little children. But she comes of a family of thieves. This is her second term of imprisonment here. That woman," pointing to another and older prisoner, "is her mother, also here for the second time. We've got the father and husband over in the male prison." What a family record! I could not resist the temptation of scanning narrowly this girl's features, but the more I did so the more perplexed I became. I could scarcely believe, but for such convincing testimony, that so ingenuous and fair a face could belong to a brazened and incorrigible thief. But there is little doubt of the fact. The girl herself does not deny it.

I visited the hospital, a large, airy, lofty and well-lighted apartment on the first floor of the south wing. The doctor's office and apothecary's shop are close at hand. The sick prisoners are apparently allowed some few desirable privileges, such as talking and playing harmless games to wile away the time. I asked to be permitted to see the wounds of a poor fellow who had been badly shot in two places, and has consequently lost the use of one of his legs. The wounds, as far as my unprofessional eye could judge, were clean and healthy, while the bandages were as fresh and nice as those in use in ordinary hospitals. This is as it should be. It was not by any means a pleasant, though a self-imposed task; but I have heard so much of neglect and careless treatment in prison hospitals that I was determined to see for myself. Of course, as to the surgical treatment I can say nothing. Not more than eight or ten patients were in the hospital. There have not been more than twenty-five in the hospital at one time during the year. This speaks well for the healthiness of the prison and its location; especially when the previous bad habits of many of the prisoners, and the fact that some of them are ill when they arrive, are taken into consideration.

The prison chapel is over the hospital. The service of the Dutch Reformed Church is performed every Sunday morning, and the Chaplain also occasionally visits each prisoner in his cell. Arrangements have also been made for Catholic prisoners receiving the ministrations of the Church. There is, however, one paragraph in the last report of the Chaplain to the Inspectors which demands attention. He says:

"By a statute of the Legislature I think each convict is entitled to a Bible and hymn-book; that this is both a wise and most commendable provision cannot, I think, be questioned; scarcely a day passes but I am compelled to deny applications for both these books. May I be permitted to make an earnest appeal to your honorable Board to urge upon the Legislature the necessity of making a special appropriation for this object?"

Whose fault is this? Where are all the Bible societies and prison associations? Such should be an important feature of their work, above all, in such a case. They have distributed plenty of Bibles for Africa and Asia; but none, apparently, for the dwellers in American prisons, who need them as much as any heathen in Africa or Asia, 10,000 miles away.

The prison library contains about five thousand volumes, embracing moral, religious, historical, biographical and scientific works. At specified times the various gangs are marched to the library, in charge of their keepers, and are allowed to select such books as strike their fancy. They are also allowed the use of weekly papers and periodicals, all of which are carefully selected by the Chaplain. In addition to his other duties, the Chaplain exercises supervision over all the correspondence of the prisoners. By law they are allowed to write to their friends once in three months. Their friends, on an average, write to them about twice as often. This examination of all letters passing to and fro may possibly be necessary; but it has this great drawback—that it tends to prevent a prisoner from informing his friends in the event of his suffering ill-usage at the hands of his keeper.

And now for "the chamber of horrors." Passing through a small *entresol* in the hospital wing, I found myself in that relic of barbarin ages, the prison punishment room, or, as I prefer to term it, the torture chamber. As I glanced hurriedly around at the various implements of legalized cruelty, I could almost fancy I saw ERYNNE, minus his ears, or the Jesuit garb and shaven crown of some long-dead Conductor of the Inquisition. There are no thumb-screws, no racks; but there are other appliances relatively as brutal, considering the enlightenment of the age, and it is no secret that they are often and vigorously used. There are five modes of punishment in vogue in the prison—the "dark cell," the "ball and chain," the "collar and crown," the "back handcuff," and the "thumb pulley," the last the most ingenious torture of the whole collection. The ball and chain are attached to prisoners who have attempted to escape, by a band of iron riveted round the leg, just above the ankle. This may be a necessary precaution to prevent them from repeating the attempt, but it is unnecessarily cruel to keep them on the prisoners when locked in their cells, as their weight and inconvenience must render them most undesirable bed-fellows, and likely to interfere with the amount of rest the wearers require to enable them to go through the next day's labor. The "collar and crown" is put on for trivial offences, such as talking. It is composed of a circular band of iron, which is fastened round the neck with a padlock, from which five or six iron bars spring and join over the scalp, forming a sort of rude crown. These instruments vary in weight from four to seven pounds. They are constantly in use. I saw several of the prisoners wearing them, both in the dining-hall and in the workshops. It does not require a very lively imagination to conceive the distress and annoyance of having to stoop for ten hours over the shop bench with seven pounds of iron dragging at the nape of the neck and weighing down the head, or the dexterity required at night to pad and stuff the machine artistically with dirty stockings, pocket-handkerchiefs or anything that comes to hand, in order that the wretched prisoner may rest his head on his pillow without the iron grinding into the skin.

The other punishments are all for refractory or violent prisoners. The dark cell is an ordinary cell, without a stick of furniture, which is closed by a solid iron, ungrated door. The floor is covered with sawdust. As the door closed on me I could fully appreciate the horrible situation of the Egyptians of old, when they were visited with the plague of "darkness that might be felt." But the dark cell is, in many cases, a punishment very detrimental to the health of those who suffer it. Prisoners of the degraded class—a class to which a large majority of the prisoners at Sing Sing belong—are desperately obstinate, and will suffer considerably before rendering submission. Many a one has passed two or three weeks, and even longer, in the dark cells at Sing Sing. But the exclusion of light means exclusion of air and stoppage of all ventilation—a fearful deprivation. And, moreover, any medical man will vouch that light is in itself very necessary to health. Many doctors declare that a sunbath is almost as useful in its way as a cold water bath. There must, of course, be vigorous punishments for breaches against prison discipline, but the most advisable forms have not yet been hit upon. Next Spring the International Prison Convention assembles in London. Let us hope that this matter of punishment will receive their most earnest consideration, and that thorough reform will follow.

By way of delicately leading the readers of the TIMES up to the horrors of the "pulley," I will first tell them something about the "back handcuff." Along the wall of the punishment-room are five stout hooks driven into the wall about four feet from the ground. When a prisoner refuses obedience his hands are put in handcuffs fastened behind him. To the connecting link a strong ring is attached, and this ring is hoisted on to one of the hooks on the wall, forcing the head and shoulders forward, and drawing up the arms behind and the lower part of the body into a cramped and painful posture. The keeper told me that they once had a prisoner who bore this punishment for six hours and a half before he would give in and agree to behave himself.

But the most diabolical of all these instruments of torture is the "thumb pulley;" for its power of inflicting agony far surpasses all the others put together. I do not hesitate to say that its use in an American or any other prison is an outrage on Christian humanity, and a burning disgrace to the boasted civilization of the nineteenth century. I can speak from personal experience. I was so horrified at the keeper's explanation of the mode of working it that I turned round and requested him to try it on me. The fellow was rather taken aback, and suggested that it would not be pleasant—in fact, that it was "rather painful." Rather painful! It is the most excruciating agony. I replied, "That is the very reason why I want to try it." He somewhat reluctantly consented, and the operation of torture began. He produced about a foot of very stout whip-cord, with a slip-knot at either end, and putting my thumbs in the loops, drew the knot taut below the first joint. The cord was then hung on a hook attached to the end of a rope which dangled from a pulley in the ceiling, and the preparations were complete. On my giving the word "ready," a brawny-armed convict seized the other end of the rope and quickly hoisted me from my feet till I could with difficulty touch the floor with the tips of my toes; the whole weight of my body, of course, dragging on my thumbs. I was literally suspended from those two small portions of the human frame. I hung there for about five seconds, after which the pain became insupportable, and I requested to be let down. In those few seconds I experienced quite enough to assure me what must be the indescribable suffering of a man or woman suspended for even a minute. And yet the keeper told me that a prisoner once endured this hellish torture for five minutes and a half "without fainting." It seemed to me that my thumbs and the tough sinews on the inside of the wrist were being drawn out. I felt that my arms must leave the shoulder sockets, and that the muscles of my back would be literally torn away if I were not let down immediately. I found when my thumbs were released from the slip-knots that there were evident signs that the cord had almost buried itself in the flesh. An indentation over an eighth of an inch deep encircled each thumb. It was of a transparent white color. Then came a band slightly discolored, and then a band of red. The flesh did not altogether regain its natural appearance on one thumb for some time after. And yet I was the victim of this engine of torture for only five seconds! Many tender-hearted and humane persons may be inclined to comfort themselves with the hope that the infliction of the punishment of the pulley is of rare occurrence. Let me undeceive them by quoting from the last official report of the Inspectors of State Prisons. In table No. 14, under the heading, "Exhibit of Punishments During the Year," the following item appears: "Pulled.....208!" Omitting Sundays, this total gives an average of four prisoners "pulled" every week through the year.

That such brutality is practiced at Sing Sing, Auburn and Clinton is not the fault of the prison authorities, but of our prison system. The law, though forbidding the shower-bath, allows these punishments to be inflicted at discretion; and in this case permission is indirectly an ordinance, for all these forms of punishment were discussed at the time of the passage of the act abolishing the use of the shower-bath in the State Prisons. A criminal is a human being, even when he is a refractory criminal; and every consideration of common humanity cries out aloud against his being subjected to such horrible punishment.

A. P.

WASHINGTON NEWS.

Solicitor-General Bristow's Resignation—Gen. Schenck's Minister Relations Severed—The Amnesty Bill—An Honest Department.

Special Dispatch to the New-York Times.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 24.—The resignation of Solicitor-General BRISTOW, which was placed in the President's hands over a week ago, is the subject of great misrepresentation as to the cause that prompted it. Col. BRISTOW was in no wise an aspirant for the office of Attorney-General, and his resignation is for private and personal reasons, entirely disconnected from his official relations. He studiously refused to allow his friends to use his name in connection with the office of Attorney-General, and such mention as was made of his name was without his permission, and rather the consequence of a spontaneous appreciation of the fitness of such an appointment than a suggestion from himself. Col. BRISTOW resumes his former law partnership with Gen. HARLAN, of Louisville, next week. It is understood that the vacant position of Solicitor-General has been tendered to United States District-Attorney NORTON, of Missouri, an officer whose record here is very high.

THE LOST BOOK.

In the dispatches of Saturday, which gave an account of the curious disappearance of a copy of the "Case of the United States," the inference was unintentionally conveyed that Secretary FISH was partly responsible for the loss of the document. Such was not the fact, as the Secretary did not have the document in his custody at the time.

OUR MINISTER TO ENGLAND.

Gen. SCHENCK has disposed of his stock in the Emma Mining Company, of which he was a director, and concerning which so much trouble has been made in certain quarters. It would appear from the information at hand, that he has not taken this course at the demand or suggestion of our Government, nor because he deemed his connection with it any more improper than heretofore, but from his desire to avoid even a suspicion of evil and not to give ground for scandal prejudicial to himself, or to the interests of our Government with which he is charged. He has furnished precedents in defense of his connection with the enterprise, in the practice of diplomatic officers and ministers of other Governments than our own resident in Europe. The general sentiment among Congressmen has been that while the affair was to be regretted as a bad precedent for the representatives of our Government abroad, there was nothing really censurable in it. The announcement that, in deference to public opinion in this country, he has withdrawn from the company, will nevertheless be gladly received.

AMNESTY.

The action of the Senate in amending the Amnesty bill in order to prevent its becoming a law before the reassembling of Congress must not be taken as indicative that it will not at some other time during the present session receive favorable action. It is stated by those not specially to be regarded as the friends of the amnesty policy that the necessary two-thirds vote in the Senate will be easily secured, if not for the present bill, for one somewhat modified in its terms. The friends of amnesty will urge speedy action, but whether they will succeed in this depends much upon what they are willing to concede to several cautious men, who will insist on incorporating some provisions they think absolutely essential to the protection of the public Treasury, and some other interests, to their minds, of great importance. Mr. MORRILL, of Vermont, gave expression to similar views to these during the debate last Thursday, and some inquiry shows they are shared by many Senators.

THE INTERIOR DEPARTMENT.

It has fallen to the Interior Department to be exceedingly fortunate in the character of its officers, in whom it has rested responsibility for the disbursement and collection of the funds necessary for its operations. Since the beginning of President GRANT's Administration, not a dollar of the public funds has been lost to the Government through the dishonesty of any one of the officers of this Department. In the few cases where irregularities have occurred, they have been speedily detected by the Department, and the interests of the Government have been fully protected, and loss prevented. In the late pension frauds at Philadelphia, the Government has recovered the whole amount of the misappropriated funds.

Dispatch to the Associated Press.

THE LEGAL-TENDER CASES.

The full opinion of the United States Supreme Court in the legal-tender cases will be delivered on the 16th of January. Those who will unite in the majority are Justices DAVIS, SWAYNE, Miller, Swayne, and Bradley, and those in the minority, Chief-Justice Chase, and Associate Justices Clifford, Field, and Nelson. In addition to the majority and minority reports proper, it is expected several of the Judges will express their opinions on different branches of the question.

TREASURY INVESTIGATIONS.

The Committee on Expenditures in the Treasury Department have not been charged with such an investigation as the Secretary is having made, which is a counting of the funds of the Treasury, which it is supposed will occupy twenty counters four months. The investigation of the Committee has to do with accounts, expenditures, vouchers, and the administration of the affairs of the Department in all the ramifications. This investigation has already commenced, and although delayed somewhat on account of the absence of Democratic members of the Committee, it will be resumed immediately after the Holidays.

CUBA.

Efforts of the Recent Insurgents—Schemes of Scoundrels for Gunboats—Action of the Central Department—Recruitment of Insurgents—An Engagement Simulated—John Chinaman's Treasure.

From Our Own Correspondent.

HAVANA, Saturday, Dec. 16, 1871.

A better feeling now prevails in Havana. I do not mean to say that the people have forgotten the scenes witnessed only a few days ago; but everybody engaged in business is trying hard to make the bad impression produced disappear as much as possible, although the same business men, when we return home, will most likely speak about nothing else, particularly if he himself or any of his intimate friends has grown up sons. A number of our citizens, principally Spaniards, who had sons studying at the Havana University, sent them by yesterday's steamer to Spain—partly in order to have them conclude their studies there, but mainly to get them out of harm's way and remove them from temptation. The next steamer will take another batch, and, from present indications, it appears as if the Havana University would soon reach the goal marked out by the ultra-Catholic and ultra-Spanish Party, and become a kind of sparsely-attended high school or gymnasium. That the decline of the University will produce a consequent decline in other institutions of learning, is only natural, and must prove injurious to young men who have not the means of going abroad to study. But it will prove of immense advantage to the sons of the middle and mechanic classes, and to the country in general, as the fortunate youths will bring back different ideas, opinions and habits, setting those who have not been abroad a laudable example, and thus rousing them from their lethargy, so much of their much-vaunted traditions of old Spain successfully opposed by the spirit of the present century.

REPENTANT INSURGENTS.

A very important move has just been made in the Central Department, originating undoubtedly with the Spaniards, but made by their allies and tools, the surrendered insurgents. These surrendered Generals, Governors, and other trash, have signed a petition to the King, and placed it in the form of a manifesto to their countrymen. These ex-rebels, in the first place, protest their adherence to the throne, and inform the King and people of the island that they are disposed to aid the Government, which undoubtedly is partial confirmation of the rumor which we had some weeks ago, namely, that these ex-insurgents would organize, and in the pay of Spain go forth to kill their countrymen. The repentant rebels then continue to state:

"We rose in arms in favor of a political idea which was not supported by the majority of the Cubans, and we have seen our illusions vanish, because our efforts were opposed by and foreigners also stayed away while we found out that Spain had sufficient materials to maintain the integrity of its territory. The Camagüey insurrection, the most powerful of all, had, in December, 1868, from three to four thousand armed men, and from three to thirty-five thousand adherents. The first blow was given by Gen. RODAS in April, 1870, and was followed up by VALMASEDA with such success that the insurgents have only from three to four hundred men, now (in the Central Department) principally negroes, who are without resources, and are commanded by IGNACIO AGRAMONTE, disobeyed by the orders of Quintana. From Las Tunas to Moron not a single house is left standing, and the country terrifies by its silence. The political idea has disappeared, to make way for the idea of destruction, and if this war is prolonged, it is done with intentions which honorable and conscientious men cannot countenance, and which those still at war will be both to see and to regret. We are working to make themselves masters of the situation, if they do not already command in the insurgent districts. The revolutionary idea has degenerated into an idea of ruin, and the Cubans who subscribe, protest against the prolongation of a fight which can only be productive of ruin to the children."

The salvation of this part of the island lies in the immediate pacification and reconstruction of the country. Peace is the great need, and this idea is in every Cuban's mind, irrespective of political opinion, and is given expression in the hearts of the insurgents. Those who sign know the sterling character of Gen. VALMASEDA, but in order to secure an early triumph it is necessary that VALMASEDA's conciliatory policy be continued, the effects of said policy being seen in over forty thousand surrendered persons. When the island is once pacified your Majesty will make all concessions to this island compatible with our nationality, and with a special regard to our social constitution. The signers of this (they number 3,235) abjure their past errors, and believe that they represent the ideas of the largest portion of the fourteen or fifteen thousand insurgents who have surrendered during the past year, and are individually and collectively ready to do what may be required of any honorable and loyal Spaniard."

This manifesto must produce great effect, because it is signed by many influential men. The fact that they are renegades to their cause does not matter in the least. Such small trifles as fighting for free Cuba today and against it tomorrow are not so severely regarded here as they would be in the United States or in Europe. Among the most prominent signers are Lope Recio, Miguel Zaldivar, Fernando Agüero, Cornelis Porre, Pedro Recio, Joaquin Miranda, Manuel Agüero, Teofilo Agüero, Fernando Cespedes, Joaquin Betancourt, Mateo Leal, Juan Pupero, Tomas Zayas, Melchor Bernal, Javier Varona, Rafael Varona and Maurice Montejo, who were all at one time considered great men and legislators for free Cuba, and who are now fighting on the other side.

JOHN CHINAMAN'S TREASURE.

The Chinamen are once more in trouble, yesterday's *Gaceta* having published a law which reduces them to the condition of slaves. Those who arrived after the year 1860 must lease themselves out again, working for the planter at $12 a month, when it is known that the poorest negro receives $17 monthly. In my next I shall give a fuller account of this law.

QUASIMODO.

How Two Californian Boys Killed a Panther.

The following story, narrating how two boys killed a panther and two cubs, is told the Sacramento *Union* by a subscriber, residing in Colusa County, Cal.:

"Permit me to make known to you an incident which transpired during the Summer months at the north fork of Grindstone, in Colusa County. The particulars are related to me by Rowsmore, a gentleman residing in the vicinity of Newville, upon whose veracity you can safely rely. He says two young men, with them he is personally acquainted, started to the mountains, as is customary, with a band of sheep. One was named ORLANDO BURRIS, aged fourteen years, and the other CHAS. HULL, aged eighteen. After getting thoroughly settled in their cabin and the sheep under good control, they started off one bright morning trout fishing, having with them a sheep-dog and a jack-knife, the latter in the possession of young HULL, and the only weapon of defense in case of an attack from any wild animals. They had not gone far when they came to an old moss-grown log, and were about to step on it when out springs a large she-panther and her two cubs. Young BURRIS blessed the sheep-dog on the panther. He immediately seized the dog by the head and was punishing him in a frightful manner when young BURRIS came to the rescue, catching the panther by the tail and endeavoring to pull her off the dog. In case the panther let go her hold it would have been sure death to the young adventurer. Just in the nick of time young HULL, seeing the danger his companion was in, drew his jack-knife and rushed to the scene of the conflict. Running his hand down over the panther until he felt the pulsations of the heart, he raised the knife, and, with unerring aim, drove it clearing into the panther's heart. The animal fell dead between them. Thus, by the merest accident, the lives of the two young heroes were spared. A few days afterward they hunted up the two cubs which escaped during the fight with the old one, and killed them also. Any person paying a visit to their father's residence can see the three skins hung up as a trophy of the victory they accomplished. The dog recovered and is as faithful as ever."

The Arrests in Salt Lake City for the Murder of Dr. Robinson.

From the Salt Lake (Utah) Tribune, Dec. 14.

Yesterday the city was thrown into considerable excitement over the arrest of three men, charged with the murder of Dr. ROBINSON, which occurred in this city half a dozen years ago. The arrested parties are ALEXANDER BURT, JAMES THOMS and J. L. BLYTHE. The murder, whoever committed it, was one of the most deliberate and brutal ever perpetrated in the United States, and should the perpetrators ever be found out, they will undoubtedly pay the extreme penalty of the law. Dr. ROBINSON was called out of his bed at night, to visit, as he supposed, a man who had met with a severe accident, and was knocked down with an axe, or some such instrument, and shot and stabbed in different parts of his body, as was supposed by several different persons. Salt Lake was greatly disturbed by the horrible deed

Schanber, Mortier & Graham,
NO. 2 JOHN-STREET AND NO. 19 MAIDEN-LANE,
NOW OPENING FOR THE HOLIDAYS
A VERY LARGE AND CHOICE STOCK OF SMALL JEWELRY,
FINE CORAL SETS,
SCARF-PINS, SLEEVE-BUTTONS, &c.
RUSSIA LEATHER GOODS
IN GREAT VARIETY,
DRESSING-CASES,
GLOVE AND HANDKERCHIEF BOXES,
WRITING-DESKS, BRONZE
INKSTANDS, PAPER WEIGHTS, &c.
FINE WATCHES A SPECIALTY.
—*Advertisement.*

Steinway & Sons'
GRAND, SQUARE AND UPRIGHT PIANOS.
Old pianos taken in exchange. Illustrated catalogues sent free on application.
WARE-ROOMS, STEINWAY HALL, Nos. 109 and 111 East 14th-st., New-York.—*Advertisement.*

The Most Holiday Present.
A Sewing-machine, and the best Sewing-machine is a FLORENCE. No. 18 Union-square, New-York.
Corner Fulton and Jay streets, Brooklyn.
—*Advertisement.*

THE BEST HOLIDAY PRESENT FOR A LADY—A Grover & Baker Sewing-machine. Salesrooms 495 Broadway, and No. 564 3d-av.—*Advertisement.*

HOLIDAY PRESENTS OF AFFECTION AND CHARITY.—Man's best gift to woman was the sewing-machine. A better Holiday present can not be asked, or one nearer and dearer still than a WHEELER & WILSON Sewing-machine cannot be devised. Their reputation is too well established to need comment, and the prices are invariably to suit the times. The splendid depot is No. 707 Broadway.—*New-York Daily Times.*—*Advertisement.*

The most popular piano in the fashionable circles of New-York is the KNABE, one the merits of which is considered to be out of society. This instrument has steadily gained in the regard of its patrons, and was proving it to be entitled to the highest admiration for its possession of all the qualities which go to make a perfect piano. For sale by the agents, WM. A. PAUL & Co., No. 635 Broadway, New-York.—*Advertisement.*

Save Sixteen Dollars.
Buy the celebrated WILSON SHUTTLE SEWING-MACHINE. The best in the world. Price $45, sold on easy payments of $4 a month. Warranted for five years. A low price machine for a good machine. Office and salesroom WILSON SEWING-MACHINE COMPANY, No. 707 Broadway, New-York.

Holiday Presents.
Stereoscopes and Views, Chromos and Frames, Albums, Graphoscopes, &c. &c.
E. & H. T. ANTHONY & CO.,
No. 591 Broadway.
Opposite Metropolitan.

Holiday Presents.
French Embroidered Slippers for ladies and gents; Boots, Shoes and Gaiters, in every variety, selling at popular prices. Also, English manufactured waterproof Boots, for gentlemen's wear, at No. 173 Broadway.
C. C. RICHMOND.

A Shot Through the Leg.—The residences of I. V. Myers, Esq., Clifton, and Samuel Bakes, Esq., Gerstons, were robbed from burglars, on Thursday night last, by HOLMES' BURGLAR ALARM TELEGRAPH. Mr. Myers put a shot through the leg of one of the burglars. Messrs. Hall and Ward, neighbors, were badly robbed the same night, as they had no protection but a number of watch-dogs.
E. HOLMES, No. 7 Murray-st.

Batchelor's Hair Dye is the Best in the world—the only safe, true and perfect hair dye. Ridiculous tints—no disappointment—harmless, reliable, instantaneous black or brown. At all druggists and No. 16 Bond-st.

New 7-octave Pianos, $350.—New Organs, $50 to $80. New Melodeons, $60 cash, for the Holidays. HORACE WATERS, No. 481 Broadway.

Maine's Portable Window Ventilator.—Fresh air, no draft; fits any window. Price, $2. Send for circular. UNDERHILL & CO., No. 16 Dunne-st.

Schenck's Pulmonic Syrup.
SEA-WEED TONIC AND MANDRAKE PILLS.
These are the only medicines that will cure pulmonary consumption. Dr. SCHENCK has been in constant practice over thirty years continually curing, as the testimonials show, his medicines. If properly taken will cure consumption. His MANDRAKE PILLS cleanse the liver and stomach; his SEA-WEED TONIC develops the bile, stimulates the liver, regulates the stomach, and makes it digest. His PULMONIC SYRUP ripens the matter, and causes it to be thrown off without any exertion. JOHN F. HENRY,
No. 3 College-place, New-York.
Wholesale Agent.

$150,000 GOLD. ROYAL HAVANA Lottery of Cuba drawn Jan. 5; whole tickets $10, strictly genuine; shares in proportion. Send for circulars or call for information at JOSEPH BATES, agent, No. 154 Broadway.

COMMISSIONER FOR ALL STATES AND Other States and Notary Public, No. 1 Beekman-st., Room No. 7 first floor.

POLITICAL.

CITIZENS' REFORM ASSOCIATION—Committee of Ninety will meet TUESDAY, Dec. 26, at 12 o'clock, at Rooms of the Chamber of Commerce, corner of William and Cedar-sts., to transact business.
JOHN FOLEY, Chairman.
THOS. S. CUMMINGS, } Secretaries.
M. O. ROE, }

NEW PUBLICATIONS.
THAT HOMEBREW HOVER.
GUM PROSPECTUS.
By
M. LORE.
IS HAVING A VERY LARGE SALE.
THE OLD AND THE YOUNG,
THE RICH AND THE POOR,
all read and enjoy the MORAL of
THAT FASCINATING TALE OF REAL LIFE.
To be had of ALL BOOK AND NEWS DEALERS.
Principal Depots:
AMERICAN NEWS COMPANY,
Nassau-st., New-York.
J. B. LIPPINCOTT & CO.,
Philadelphia.
ROBERT CLARKE & CO.,
Cincinnati.

MISCELLANEOUS.
SCHENCK'S PULMONIC SYRUP.
SEA-WEED TONIC AND MANDRAKE PILLS.
These are the only medicines that will cure pulmonary consumption. Dr. SCHENCK has been in constant practice over thirty years continually curing, as the testimonials show, his medicines. If properly taken will cure consumption. His MANDRAKE PILLS cleanse the liver and stomach; his SEA-WEED TONIC develops the bile, stimulates the liver, regulates the stomach, and makes it digest. His PULMONIC SYRUP ripens the matter, and causes it to be thrown off without any exertion. JOHN F. HENRY,
No. 3 College-place, New-York.
Wholesale Agent.

ENGLAND.

[illegible] —The House of Lords— "The Hole-in-the-Wall"—The Government Plans—Woman Suffrage—The Season.

From a Special Correspondent.
LONDON, Saturday, Dec. 9, 1871.

The Central Committee of the International has recognized "Citizen Dilke" as the future first President of the Republic of Great Britain. A member introduced a resolution of sympathy with Sir Charles Dilke; but the President quickly put a stop to such anti-democratic nonsense as "Sir Charles." They could not recognize hereditary titles. He could only be recognized by them as "Citizen Dilke." Well, Citizen Dilke has been to Birmingham and made a speech against the hereditary principle. He wishes to abolish the House of Lords; but does not quite see his way to the abolition of the Baronetcy. There was a great row in the Town Hall of Birmingham; even that radical town has a few loyalists. They hissed Citizen Dilke as soon as he rose on the platform. The Republicans cheered, and [illegible] got a hearing for a good half hour—at last the Mayor sent for a strong body of Police, who cleared the hall of the [illegible] loyalists. Beaten and overpowered by the supremacy of the triumphant Democracy, they marched out of the hall shouting:

"Rule Britannia, Britannia rules the waves,
And Britons never, never, never shall be slaves."

Great cheering in the hall and Sir Citizen Dilke went on with his oration, and was heard as soon as the coughing and sneezing had subsided, for the retreating Tories had left a slight souvenir in the shape of snuff or Cayenne pepper, or both, scattered upon the floor.

ANTI-HOUSE OF LORDS.

Birmingham goes pretty strongly for a reformation of the House of Lords, but the loudest cheers at this meeting were given for its total abolition. So, Birmingham, you see, is well along on the road to Republicanism, and that of a more simple type than you can give them any pattern for. But the International, I should have said farther back, cares very little about republics. Has not a Republic shot and banished its choicest citizens at Paris? A monarchy could do no worse, and might be more magnanimous.

"MODERATE" REFORMS.

Mr. Bradlaugh, who is quite moderate in the reforms he advocates, wishing only to abolish the hereditary principle, land monopoly, and the Prince of Wales, has been lecturing at Stowbridge and Walsall on the "Impeachment of the House of Brunswick," and "The Land, the People and the Coming Struggle." At Stowbridge he had the Corn Exchange in spite of the vigorous protest of Lord Lyttelton; and a strong body of police kept order. He contended "that every holding of land was unlawful when that holding was obnoxious to the interest of the general mass of the people, and that the holding of land carried with it the duty of cultivating land, if the land could be cultivated with fair profit."

"THE HOLE-IN-THE-WALL."

Here in London, while Democratic sentiments are propagated through the working men's associations and spouted in every debating hall, the leaders who make a business of agitation, sometimes get together by the ears in very unseemly fashion. At the Hole-in-the-Wall in the small hours of Tuesday morning, there was a great row between the two agitators, Osborne and Odger. Osborne complained of the scarcity of Democratic contributions. Odger jumped up in a rage and said he would have Osborne ejected from every Democratic association in London. Osborne asked if he, Odger, was Dictator, and said he had done more for democracy than ever Odger had. Odger said this was a lie, and as the quarrel grew stronger, other members mixing in, Odger shouting at the top of his voice, denouncing Osborne as a traitor to democracy, and Osborne replying:

"Oh, you are not going to be dictator. I and other working men do not choose to follow you in all your mad schemes about a republic. You know as well as I do that with all the forces and all the real working classes against you you have no chance of a republic. You don't mean anything but talk, and are not the man that will ever get a republic. [Here the speaker, who is a very powerful man, gave emphasis to his declaration by bringing down his fist with great weight, and shivering into several pieces the desk, already split.]

Mr. Odger (with greater vehemence than ever)—I tell you, Osborne, you are a disgrace to democracy. You talk about having ideas or principles of your own; you have got none. We have. I have [illegible]; but you—you pluck our plumage, and strut about in it; and, what is more, you are the dirty bird that fouls every republican and every democratic nest you can get into. ["Hear, hear," and great uproar.]

And so on and so forth. The three tailors of Tooley-street begin to seem gentle and respectable personages.

THE GOVERNMENT'S PLANS.

The Government is very busy preparing its measures of legislation for the coming session of Parliament, its policy being to make such reforms as will satisfy the great body of the people that a revolution would give them nothing better. [illegible] Then even the now [illegible] of all, but liberal [illegible] (the publicans, if they are no solace to the thirsty masses. The Lord Chancellor has a bill ready to facilitate the transfer of land—now a costly and tedious operation—and the Marquis of Hartington undertakes to build comfortable cottages for every laborer in Ireland. And now, [illegible] a partisan of Mr. Gladstone:

"Ought any Liberal in his senses to break up a Government which is about to amend the sanitary state of the United Kingdom, preserve the lives of miners, and convert the wretched hovels which foster disease and crime in Ireland into decent habitations, because Mr. Fawcett is determined to precipitate legislation [illegible] University [illegible] the Queen's University? Public opinion on Irish education is still in a chaotic and shifting state, and no harm can accrue from postponing legislation upon it for another year. There are quite enough Government omnibuses already prepared for the crush through Temple Bar."

And he don't like what Citizen Dilke is doing any better, and says:

"To borrow the formula of the country justice—providence has blessed Sir C. Dilke with health and strength, instead of which he goes about the country doing his best to render Peerage Reform odious, to make Radicalism synonymous with Republicanism, and to drive the timid and moderate into the ranks of Conservatism."

And if, by any means the Government could now be forced to resign, or dissolve Parliament, and bring on a general election, Citizen Dilke might see the startling phenomenon of a Conservative majority in a new House of Commons.

WOMAN SUFFRAGE.

In all these agitations the woman suffrage question is not lost sight of. A central committee has been established in London, with John Stuart Mill for President. A meeting has just been held in Birmingham, a good agitating centre, Mr. George Dawson in the chair, at which speeches were made, and very neat and clever ones, too, by Miss Sturge, Mrs. Fawcett, Miss Ashworth, Mr. G. Dixon, M. P., and Hon. Auberon Herbert, M. P. The advocates of women's rights in England stick to respectability. A few have said and written some pretty strong things on the Contagious Diseases Act, but that is an exceptional case. There is no prominent propagandist of woman's suffrage here who could be spoken of, as one of our fair countrywomen is, in an important English journal, as "that peculiarly foul-mouthed female stump-orator, Mrs. So-and-so, of whom it is said that 'it is stated that many parts of her lecture were so utterly disgusting as to be unfit for publication, even in an American paper!'" These are my capitals, my italics, my points of exclamation, and they are much too weak for my surprise and indignation.

THE SEASON.

The Winter has set in early with a steady cold, and the ponds are covered with thick ice. In the Eastern Counties deep snow has fallen. A week ago I picked a large bouquet of lovely roses in the open garden, but the weather just now will scarcely let the buds open. The arbutus and laurustinus, however, are in full blossom. Holly and mistletoe begin to appear at the green-grocers' shops, and I presume the French authorities will not prevent the export of mistletoe, as they did last winter, stopping it with the provisions needed for their suffering armies. And geese will come over as well—for last year many a Christmas table wanted its roast goose. Eggs are four cents apiece in spite of an enormous importation. Mutton cooked and on the plate costs close on forty cents a pound; but very good Australian mutton, ready cooked, can be had for a York shilling; and I see in Temple Bar that one of the "Books of the Year" was written to show people "How to Live on Sixpence a Day."

MONADNOCK.

A Romantic Story from Across the Continent.

From the Kansas City (Mo.) Times, Dec. 20.

On Saturday evening Justice Sutton's office was the scene of the termination of a most romantic affair. A young and very pretty girl named Miss Alameda Cosgrove, residing at San Diego, last Summer responded to an advertisement in the *Waverley Magazine*, for a correspondence with a view to matrimony. The new correspondent of the young lady resided at Wathena, Kansas, and represented himself to be a merchant, young, wealthy, honest, and in want of a wife. A long and loving correspondence ensued between Jerome Markham and Miss Cosgrove. Photographs were exchanged, and Miss Cosgrove was delighted to find her distant lover a good-looking youth. Finally, she consented to become Mrs. Markham, and for economy's sake consented to come to Wathena to be married. Being an orphan and without restraint, she took the Central Pacific about two weeks ago and started for Kansas. All went well until she got on the Denver Pacific. After leaving Cheyenne the train struck a drift 16 feet deep and 300 yards in length, and became hopelessly stuck fast. While snow-bound near Crow Creek, Colorado, Miss Cosgrove attracted the attention of Mr. Julius Emmet, a commission agent of this City, who, perceiving the young lady seated alone and evidently unprovided for such an emergency, very gallantly tendered such assistance as was in his power to give, which was a valise full of cold food and two buffalo robes. The young couple were soon on friendly, social terms. Miss Cosgrove very naively recited her wild adventure, and was rewarded by Emmet informing her that he was single, &c. By the time the Kansas Pacific train had crossed the plains and was winding its way over the fertile prairies of Kansas, the young folks were firm friends. They parted with regret at Wathena, when the young lady turned to meet for the first time him she was to call her husband. She had only a moment to wait before a rough-looking individual, at least forty years of age, made himself known as her correspondent and expectant husband. Miss Cosgrove, finding she had been deceived, turned without a word and entered the car and came to Kansas City. The following brief item in last Tuesday's *Times* gives the sequel:

MARRIED.—Last evening, at the office of Justice Sutton, on Fifth-street, Miss A. Cosgrove, of San Diego, Cal., to Mr. Julius Emmet, of Kansas City.

Farmers and Farm Laborers in California.

The complaint is general among farmers in California that they cannot obtain good, steady farm hands; and commenting upon this lack the San Francisco *Bulletin* says:

"The men whom they hire only stay a short time, and then take up their blankets and tramp. The blanket brigade is a very large one in California. But the farmers have probably contributed more than any other class of men to increase the number of those who render indifferent service, sleep in blankets, and will die in blankets. Two-thirds of the farmers of this State live in a cheerless, comfortless way. Their houses are wretched, and all their domestic appointments are of the poorest kind. Even when the farmer is living in a comfortable way, it does not seem to occur to him that his hired men are entitled to more than a mere shelter over their heads. No Eastern farmer would ever venture to use hired men as they are habitually treated on farms in this State. Here he is sent off to some barn or outhouse to sleep in his blankets. He has no room assigned to him, no decent bed, and no place to observe those decencies by which men preserve their self-respect. He sits down on a board for a seat as often as otherwise at a poorly-furnished table, hurries over his work, and no care is exercised other than to get the most work out of him for the smallest pay. Of course intelligent, skilled, and faithful farm hands are difficult to procure. In their places comes the tramping laborer in his blankets; he goes away in his blankets, often with a malediction on the head of his employer. He has not been served well, and he has not served his employer well. Probably there is a greater proportion of poor, inefficient help, than in any other State. The dead-beats among laborers as well as other classes, come to California. But here, as elsewhere, good treatment does in a majority of instances, secure good laborers."

REAL ESTATE TRANSACTIONS.

For the past week ending with Saturday, Dec. 23, the market, although firm, has been dull, but few public transactions having been made and those effected not of a noticeable character. In fact the total value of City real estate sold at auction at the Exchange for the week amounts to but $68,560, as against the sum of $199,300, the figures for the preceding week ending with Saturday, Dec. 16. During the present week no special activity is looked for, as all the sales to occur (a list of which is given below,) are to be made under Court orders, but soon after Jan. 1 business cannot fail to be better, as the auctions to take place in January especially are of importance, and the property to be offered both valuable and desirable. In reference to these projected sales more will be said at the time [illegible] transacted at the Exchange.

THE WEEK'S PROPOSED BUSINESS.

To-day being Christmas, the Exchange will be closed, but for the other days in the week the following is a list of the auctions to be held by the auctioneers respectively named:

[illegible] James M. Miller, by order of the Supreme Court, in foreclosure, under the direction of John C. Bushnell, Esq., referee, will offer at auction four lots, together in size 100 by [illegible], and the three-story brick stable thereon, [illegible] on the south side of Forty-sixth street, [illegible] feet west of Sixth-avenue. In addition, Joseph McGuire, by order of the Supreme Court in foreclosure, under the direction of James H. Coleman, Esq., referee, will also offer at auction a house and lot, the latter 25 by 100, on the south side of [illegible] Third-avenue.

On Thursday, Dec. 28 at [illegible] in foreclosure, both under the direction of D. P. Ingraham, Jr., Esq., referee, Joseph McGuire will dispose of the following city property: A house and lot on the south side of Twenty-third-street, fifty feet east of Fourth-avenue, lot 25 by 98, and a house and lot on the north side of Sixty-fifth-street, forty feet east of Third-avenue, lot 20 by 80. On the same day at the Exchange, at a legal sale, Muller, Wilkins & Co. will dispose of a valuable railway property [illegible] the Fredericksburg and Gordonsville Railroad of Virginia.

On Friday, Dec. 29, the greatest number of sales [illegible] as follows [illegible] By Joseph McGuire, under an order [illegible] Court, James H. Coleman, Esq., referee, eight lots, forming the block front on the east side of Ninth-avenue, between One Hundred and Sixteenth and One Hundred and Seventeenth streets, and being together [illegible] by 100. By James M. Miller, at a Supreme Court sale in foreclosure, under the direction of D. P. Ingraham, Jr., Esq., referee, a lot in size 25.6 by [illegible], by 30.8 by 87.11, with the improvements thereon, located on the east side of Broadway, 130 feet 7 inches north of Seventy-ninth-street. By the same auctioneer, at a similar legal sale, under the direction of Chas. Parker, Esq., referee, two irregular lots, (fifty feet front,) with buildings on the north side of Forty-first-street, 125 feet east of Lexington-avenue, and by Winans, Sands & Garretson, also under a Supreme Court order in foreclosure, Thos. M. Landon, Esq., referee, a house and lot on the south side of Fourth-street, between Thompson and Wooster streets.

No other sales than these above noted are expected to occur within the week, but should any further auction be projected, and the same brought to our notice, the proposed transactions will receive due attention.

TRANSFERS AND LEASES.

The following important transfers of City real estate and list of leases, recently placed on record in the Register's office, are taken from the *Real Estate Record* of Saturday, Dec. 23:

Transfers.

8th-av., e. s., 50.5 ft. s. of 33d-st., 25x100; Franklin Wight, of Roslin, Long Island, to Michael W. Dorhan, Dec. 14 .... $45,000
5th-av., w. s., 48.9 ft. n. of 38th-st., 25x100, h. and l.; Christopher Meyer to Charles L. Anthony, Dec. 15 30,000
Kingsbridge road, [illegible] Aaron Raymond to Wm. Lalor, Dec. 13 30,000
Mott-st., [illegible] Marius Walsh to Elias Kahn, (subject to mortgage $22,000.) Dec. 19 42,000
[illegible] Lewis J. Phillips to Anna M., wife of Samuel Lynch, Dec. 15 50,000
86th-st., n. s., 250 ft. w. of 8th-av., 125x300.5, John J. Walsh and Adam S. Cameron to Anderson Fowler, Dec. 19 40,000
[illegible] Julia, wife of Henry Hart, to Benj. Hart, Dec. 15 45,000
[illegible] Hugh Blossom and [illegible] to Ira L. Doying, Dec. 11 71,500
[illegible] Halsey to Samuel L. M. Barlow, Dec. 19 80,000
[illegible] to Joseph Wilde, of Paterson, N. J., Dec. 14 .... [illegible]
Park-av., [illegible] Thos. P. Sherman to Emily A., wife of Cyrus J. Lawrence, Dec. 15 35,000
[illegible] Augustus F. Hold to John C. Donnelly, Dec. 14 72,000
[illegible] s. s., 184 ft. w. of Lexington-av., [illegible] h. and l., John McCool to Michael Ryan, Dec. 14 20,000
Centre-st., e. s., [illegible] ft. n. of Pearl-st., [illegible] 30x73.4, h. and l.; Sarah L. and Leander L. Allen, of Norwalk, Conn., to Gilbert M. Allen, Dec. 19 55,000

Leases.

West 16th-st., No. [illegible] years, per year $4,000
Rutgers-st., No. 24, 5 years, per year 1,450
Broadway and 14th-st., (hotel,) 10 years, per year 15,000
Division-st., Nos. [illegible] } 3 years, per year 7,100
Canal-st., Nos. 13 and 15 [illegible]

CITY REAL ESTATE.

A FINE FOUR-STORY HIGH-STOOP brown-stone house, [illegible], elegant order, between [illegible] and Madison-av. on Murray Hill; a bargain; possession May, 1872.
W. P. SEYMOUR, No. 171 Broadway.

$32,500.—FINE FOUR-STORY high-stoop brown-stone house, [illegible] extension, fine order, [illegible]-st., between 5th and [illegible] avs. [illegible] desirably located. [illegible]
W. P. SEYMOUR, No. 171 Broadway.

FIFTH-AV., ABOVE 50TH-ST.—A NOBLE first-class extra wide corner house, four-story, high stoop, with or without extra lot and stable.
W. P. SEYMOUR, No. 171 Broadway.

COUNTRY REAL ESTATE.

Suburban Homes.

Four tracks with steel rails, when completed with cars and ferry-boats unsurpassed, much increase the value of every home on the line of the Central Railroad of New-Jersey. For information as to houses, lots, farms, &c., on the line, apply to A. D. HOPE, No. 119 Liberty-st.

PALISADES.—TWENTY-FIVE TO 100 acres on the Palisades, fourteen miles from City Hall, nearly third of a mile front on the river and cliff, overlooks New-York and Westchester Counties and the Sound, easy of access, lies very attractively for improvement, and convenient to the new hotel now erecting on the cliff at Englewood. C. D. KELLOGG or B. S. DOWNS, No. 115 Broadway.

ORANGE, N. J.—COUNTRY HOUSES, lands and village lots for sale; a great variety. Also, furnished and unfurnished houses to let for season or year, by BLACKWELL & SMITH, 243 Broadway, 9 to 11; or Orange, corner Main and Cone sts.

DWELLINGS TO LET.

TO LET—AT A LOW RENT, ON THE BANKS of the Hudson, [illegible]-st., Bloomingdale, a dwelling-house, with barn and stable, and plenty of land for a garden; a pleasant suburban residence near the grand Boulevard. Apply at No. 5 Beekman-st., Room No. 7, first floor.

STORES, &C., TO LET.

OFFICES TO LET IN TIMES BUILDING.
SPLENDID OFFICES TO LET IN THE FIRE-PROOF TIMES BUILDING.
Apply at TIMES COUNTING-ROOM.

WILLARD'S HOTEL FOR RENT.
Having been appointed Receiver by the Court in the case of Willard vs. Willard, I am prepared to receive PROPOSALS FOR RENTING, for a term of years, the celebrated hotel in this city known as WILLARD'S.
This house is most eligibly located on Pennsylvania-av., corner 14th-st., and can accommodate five hundred guests. To an approved tenant it will be leased on most favorable terms. Address
J. C. McKELDEN, Receiver, No. [illegible] F-st., N. W., Washington, D. C.

FINE LOFTS, 50X100, WITH STEAM power, to let, together or separate; good light. Apply at Nos. 35 and 37 Wooster-st.

FINANCIAL.

$100,000,000
5-20 BONDS

HAVE BEEN CALLED IN BY THE GOVERNMENT, AND ARE NOW BEING PAID.
Many holders of these securities have been converting them, through us, into the

PEORIA & ROCK ISLAND
First Mortgage
7 Per Cent. Gold Bonds,

thereby adding 25 PER CENT. TO THEIR CAPITAL, and about 45 PER CENT. to their YEARLY INCOME.

We recommend these bonds strongly, for the following reasons:
The Road, ninety-one miles in length, is already COMPLETED, *and earning much more than the interest on the whole issue of bonds.*
The mortgage, $1,500,000, is less than $16,500 per mile.
The road passes through a rich, populous, agricultural, manufacturing, and coal district.
It connects Peoria and Rock Island, two of the largest and most flourishing cities in Illinois, and forms part of a trunk line from Indianapolis to St. Paul—[illegible] miles. It also connects two navigable rivers—the Illinois and Mississippi. The bonds are authorized for the extra equipments and necessary buildings required to do the business now offered.
They are coupon bonds, $1,000 each, and can be registered if desired.
Interest, seven per cent., gold, free of tax, payable February and August.
Price, 90 and interest, in currency.
Pamphlets and full particulars furnished by

TURNER BROTHERS,
No. 14 Nassau-st., New-York.

ERIE ROAD—REFORM.

On the 9th inst. a meeting of a number of American holders of the stock of the Erie Railway Company was held at Delmonico's, [illegible]. Messrs. W. B. Clerke, Reuben Manley and A. D. Williams were appointed a Committee to confer with such holders of Erie Railway Company's stock as are opposed to the present management of the Road. At a subsequent meeting of the Committee, held on the 13th inst., Mr. [illegible] Swann, who represents the English shareholders, was invited to be present, and expressed his concurrence in the movement, and the following resolution was unanimously adopted:
Resolved, That all the American owners of Erie Railway Company's Stock, (whether standing in their own names or in those of other parties,) who are opposed to the present management of the Road, and desire that the affairs of the Company shall be conducted on commercial and not on political principles, be invited to send their respective Post-office addresses to the Committee, care of Reuben Manley & Co., No. [illegible] Broadway, New-York, to enable the Committee to communicate with them with the view of carrying out the objects of the meeting.
(Signed,) W. B. CLERKE, Chairman.
REUBEN MANLEY.
A. D. WILLIAMS.

OFFICE OF THE RESOLUTE FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY, No. 151 BROADWAY, NEW-YORK, Dec. 21, 1871.
THIS COMPANY HAVE THIS DAY complied with the requisition of the Superintendent of the Insurance Department of the State of New-York by the full payment on the part of its stockholders of the fifty per cent. assessment made on them, and ALL IMPAIRMENT, (caused by the recent conflagration at Chicago) has thereby been made good, and the CAPITAL RESTORED TO TWO HUNDRED THOUSAND DOLLARS over and above ALL LIABILITIES.
JOHN GIHON, President.
WM. M. RANDELL, Secretary.

OFFICE OF THE ATLANTIC MUTUAL INSURANCE CO., No. 51 WALL-ST., CORNER OF WILLIAM, NEW-YORK, Dec. 19, 1871.
THE BOOKS OF THIS COMPANY will close on the 31st instant, preparatory to its annual statement. Persons holding policies on risks which shall have terminated during the year prior to the 1st of January next, are requested to furnish an account of the premiums thereon, and a statement of all claims for return of premiums, to prevent discrepancies in the accounts.
J. H. CHAPMAN, Secretary.

LOST OR STOLEN—CERTIFICATE NO. 1,374 for one hundred shares of the Preferred Stock of the Milwaukee and St. Paul Railway Company in the name of F. P. James & Co., dated May 9, 1871.
Transfer has been stopped, and all persons are cautioned against purchasing, negotiating or retaining the same.
A reward will be paid upon its return to C. SKAATS & BROTHER, Brokers, No. [illegible] Broad-st.

MANHATTAN TELEGRAPH COMPANY, OFFICE NO. [illegible] FRONT-ST., NEW-YORK, Dec. 22, 1871.
THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE stockholders of the Manhattan Telegraph Company for the election of directors will be held Dec. [illegible] at the office of the Company, No. [illegible] Front-st. Polls open from 12 to 1 o'clock.
W. F. COFFEE, Secretary.

THE NATIONAL CITIZENS' BANK, NEW-YORK, Dec. 12, 1871.
AN ELECTION FOR DIRECTORS of this Bank will be held at the banking-house on TUESDAY, the 9th day of January next. Polls open from 12 M. to 1 o'clock P. M.
W. H. OAKLEY, Cashier.

MERCHANTS' NATIONAL BANK, NEW-YORK, Dec. 8, 1871.
THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE stockholders of this bank, for the election of eleven Directors, to serve for the ensuing year, will be held at the banking-house, on TUESDAY, Jan. 9, 1872. Polls open from 12 M. to 1 P. M. [illegible]

FINANCIAL.

A FIRST-CLASS
NEW-YORK SECURITY
AT A LOW PRICE.

The undersigned offer for sale the FIRST MORTGAGE SEVEN PER CENT. GOLD BONDS of the Syracuse and Chenango Valley Railroad, at 95 and accrued interest.
This road runs from the City of Syracuse to Smith's Valley, where it unites with the New-York Midland Railroad, thus connecting that city by a direct line of road with the Metropolis. Its length is forty-two miles, its COST ABOUT $40,000 PER MILE, and it is MORTGAGED FOR LESS THAN $12,000 PER MILE; the balance of the funds required for its construction having been raised by subscription to the capital stock.
The road approaches completion. It traverses a populous and fertile district of the State, which insures it a paying business, and it is under the control of gentlemen of high character and ability. Its bonds possess all the requisites of an inviting investment. They are amply secured by a mortgage for LESS THAN ONE-THIRD THE VALUE OF THE PROPERTY. They pay SEVEN PER CENT. GOLD INTEREST, and are offered five per cent. below par. The undersigned confidently recommend them to all classes of investors.

GEORGE OPDYKE & CO.,
No. 25 Nassau-st.

EIGHT PER CT. BONDS,
OF GREENE COUNTY,
State of Missouri.

The attention of investors is called to the above Bonds, which are issued to the Kansas City and Memphis branch of the Hannibal and St. Joseph Railroad Company. The total debt of Greene County, prior to the issue of these bonds, was about $15,000. The assessed valuation of taxable property—which is estimated at half its actual value—is $5,713,076, in addition to which some $2,000,000 of railroad property will become taxable for the first time during the present year.
The entire issue of these bonds is $400,000, in coupon bonds of $1,000 each, bearing date Aug. 1, 1871, and maturing in twenty years. Interest, at the rate of eight per cent. per annum, is payable in New-York on the first days of February and August in each year.
We are authorized to offer this loan to the public at 80, and accrued interest, with the reserved right to advance the price at any time. At this price they pay OVER ELEVEN PER CENT. on the investment.
Government and other marketable securities received in exchange at current rates, we paying express charges both ways.
Pamphlets, &c., with full particulars, or any further information, will be furnished upon application, either personally or by letter.
GWYNNE, JOHNSON & DAY, Bankers,
No. 16 Wall-st., New-York.

10 PER CENT.
CITY AND COUNTY BONDS.
FIRST-CLASS SECURITIES BELOW PAR; ALSO, INSURANCE, BANK, GAS-LIGHT, CITY RAILROAD STOCKS AND BONDS, AND AN EXTENSIVE VARIETY OF FIRST MORTGAGE SEVEN AND EIGHT PER CENT. RAILROAD BONDS, INCLUDING OTHER CHOICE SECURITIES PAYING FROM 10 TO 20 PER CENT., FOR SAFE AND PROFITABLE INVESTMENTS, ALL AT LOW RATES, FOR SALE BY
ALBERT H. NICOLAY,
BANKER, STOCK-BROKER, AND AUCTIONEER, NO. 43 PINE-ST.
N. B.—First-class investment securities paying large rates of interest a specialty with this house for many years.

JOHN MUNROE & CO.,
BANKERS,
NO. 8 WALL-ST., NEW-YORK,
Issue Circular Letters of Credit for Travelers, and Draw Bills on
MUNROE & CO., No. 7 Rue Scribe, Paris, and
ALEXANDERS, CUNLIFFES & CO., No. 30 Lombard-st., London.

BROWN BROTHERS & CO.,
NO. 59 WALL-ST.,
Issue COMMERCIAL and TRAVELERS' CREDITS AVAILABLE in all PARTS of the WORLD.

REDEMPTION OF BONDS OF THE HOUSTON AND TEXAS CENTRAL RAILWAY COMPANY—EXTENSION OF TIME.—Sealed proposals for the sale of bonds to the two sinking funds will be received until March 1, 1872. The amount in the sinking fund provided for the redemption of the bonds, secured by mortgage on the main line, is one hundred and twenty thousand ($120,000) dollars. The amount in the sinking fund provided for the redemption of the bonds, secured by mortgage on the Western Division, is thirty-two thousand ($32,000) dollars. Proposals should be addressed to the undersigned, and plainly indicate whether the bonds offered are of the main line or of the Western Division. The bonds offered at lowest price will be purchased, and successful bidders notified without delay.
SHEPHERD KNAPP, WM. WALTER PHELPS, } Trustees.
Dec. 1, 1871. 23 Exchange-place, New-York City.

OFFICE OF THE NORTHERN PACIFIC RAILROAD CO., NO. 120 BROADWAY, Dec. 11, 1871.
THE BOOKS FOR THE TRANSFER of registered bonds will be closed on Friday, Dec. 15, preparatory to the payment of interest due Jan. 1, 1872. Such payment will be made by mailing to the address of each bondholder of record at the closing of the books a coin check for the amount of interest due.
All bondholders who have changed their Post-office address since July 1, 1871, are requested to send new address at once to this office. The books will be reopened Tuesday, Jan. 2, 1872.
A. H. BARNEY, Treasurer.

OFFICE METROPOLITAN GAS-LIGHT COMPANY, BROADWAY, CORNER 42D-ST., NEW-YORK, Dec. 21, 1871.
THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE stockholders of the Metropolitan Gas-light Company, for the election of directors to serve for the ensuing year, will be held at the Company's office, corner Broadway and 42d-st., on Jan. 8, 1872.
Polls open from 12 M. to 1 P. M., and longer if required. The transfer-books will be closed on the evening of Dec. 22, and reopened on the morning of Jan. 9, 1872.
O. W. ZOLLIKOFFER, Secy.

CLEVELAND AND PITTSBURG RAILROAD COMPANY.—The annual meeting of the stockholders of the Cleveland and Pittsburg Railroad Company for the election of Directors, and for the transaction of such other business as may come before them, will be held at the office of the Company, in Cleveland, O., at 10 o'clock A. M., on WEDNESDAY, Jan. 3, 1872.
G. H. INGERSOLL, Secretary.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT the first meeting of the stockholders of the United States Mortgage Company has been called by the corporators thereof to be held at the office of said Company, No. 50 Wall-st., in the City of New-York, on the 20th day of December, 1871, at 11 o'clock A. M., and that the first election of directors will take place at said meeting. By order of the corporators,
E. H. HUTTON, Chairman.
CHARLES TRACY, Secretary.
Dated NEW-YORK, Nov. [illegible], 1871.

NATIONAL BROADWAY BANK, NEW-YORK, Dec. 9, 1871.
ELECTION.—THE ANNUAL ELECTION for Directors of this bank, and for Inspectors of the next ensuing election, will be held at the banking-house, No. 237 Broadway, on TUESDAY, Jan. 9, 1872. Poll open from 12 M. to 1 o'clock P. M.
J. L. EVERITT, Cashier.

THE NATIONAL PARK BANK OF NEW-YORK, Dec. 14, 1871.
THE ANNUAL ELECTION FOR DIRECTORS of this bank will be held at the banking-house on TUESDAY, the 9th day of January next, from 12 M. to 1 o'clock P. M.
J. L. WORTH, Cashier.

MERCHANTS' EXCHANGE NATIONAL BANK, No. 257 BROADWAY, NEW-YORK, Dec. 2, 1871.
THE ANNUAL ELECTION FOR DIRECTORS of the bank will be held at the banking-house, on TUESDAY, the 9th day of January next, between the hours of 12 M. and 1 P. M.
A. S. APGAR, Cashier.

MECHANICS AND TRADERS' NATIONAL BANK, NEW-YORK, Dec. 20, 1871.
AN ELECTION FOR DIRECTORS of this institution for the ensuing year, will be held at the banking-house on WEDNESDAY, the 10th day of January next, from 12 to 1 P. M.
GEO. M. YOULE, Cashier.

THE GERMAN AMERICAN BANK, NEW-YORK, Dec. 22, 1871.
THE ANNUAL MEETING OF SHAREholders of this Bank for the election of Directors, &c., will be held at the Banking-room on MONDAY, Jan. 8, between the hours of 12 M. and 1 P. M. By order of the Board. C. H. SCHREINER, Cashier.

FOURTH NATIONAL BANK OF THE CITY OF NEW-YORK, NEW-YORK, Dec. 8, 1871.
THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE stockholders of this bank for the election of Directors and Inspectors of Election will be held at the banking-house on TUESDAY, 9th January, 1872, from 12 M. to 1 o'clock P. M.
ANTHONY LANE, Cashier.

NINTH NATIONAL BANK, NEW-YORK, Dec. 7, 1871.
THE ANNUAL ELECTION OF DIRECTORS of this bank will be held at the banking-rooms, Nos. 407 and 409 Broadway, on TUESDAY, Jan. 9, 1872, between the hours of 12 M. and 2 P. M.
JOHN T. HILL, Cashier.

THE BANK OF NEW-YORK NATIONAL BANKING ASSOCIATION, NEW-YORK, Dec. 9, 1871.
THE ANNUAL ELECTION FOR DIRECTORS of this Bank will be held at the Banking-room, on TUESDAY, Jan. 9, 1872. Polls open from 12 M. to 1 P. M.
W. B. MEEKER, Cashier.

TRADESMEN'S NATIONAL BANK, NEW-YORK, Dec. 28, 1871.
THE ANNUAL ELECTION FOR DIRECTORS will be held on TUESDAY, Jan. 9, 1872, from 12 to 1 P. M.
ANTHONY HALSEY, Cashier.

FINANCIAL.

INTERNATIONAL RAILROAD CO.
(OF TEXAS)
FIRST MORTGAGE SINKING FUND
7 PER CT. GOLD BONDS.
FORTY YEARS TO RUN.
PRINCIPAL AND INTEREST PAYABLE IN NEW-YORK, FREE OF TAX.
TRUSTEES:
JOHN A. STEWART, WILLIAM H. OSBORN.
Issue Limited to $16,000 Per Mile on Finished Road.

The Road is being built through the centre of the State, from the Red River to the Rio Grande, bringing the interior of the State, with its population and extensive productions, into direct communication with the railroad system of the United States, via the Cairo and Fulton Railroad.
Sixty miles of the Road, between Hearne, on the line of the Houston and Texas Central Railroad, and Palestine, on the Red River, have been completed, and are now in operation, and the balance of the work is progressing rapidly.
THE STOCKHOLDERS HAVE PAID IN $5,000,000 IN CASH, WHICH HAS ALL BEEN JUDICIOUSLY EXPENDED IN CONSTRUCTION PRIOR TO OFFERING THE BONDS FOR SALE. The names of the stockholders, which include some of our best citizens, can be seen at the office of the Company.
Bonds for sale at 90 PER CENT. AND ACCRUED INTEREST IN CURRENCY, and further information given, by
J. S. KENNEDY & CO., No. 41 Cedar-st.,
SPOFFORD BROTHERS & CO.,
AND AT THE OFFICE OF THE COMPANY, No. 29 Broadway, New-York.

TURNER BROTHERS,
M. C. Turner, T. C. Turner, J. Turner, R. Turner, } BANKERS, { A. Turner, G. M. Turner, J. S. Decker.
No. 14 Nassau-st., N. Y.,
(Corner Pine-st., opposite United States Treasury.)
Interest allowed on daily balances. Certificates of Deposit issued available at all business centres.
Collections made with prompt returns. Stocks, Bonds, Gold, &c., bought and sold on commission. Advances made on approved securities.
Sight Drafts and Telegraphic Transfers on San Francisco.
Desirable investment securities for sale.

VERMILYE & CO.
BANKERS,
16 and 18 Nassau-st. New-York.
DEALERS IN ALL ISSUES OF GOVERNMENT SECURITIES.
BUY AND SELL ON COMMISSION RAILWAY STOCKS, BONDS AND GOLD.
MAKING LIBERAL ADVANCES.
INTEREST ON DEPOSITS.

TO INVESTORS.
WINSLOW, LANIER & CO., BANKERS,
NO. 27 PINE-ST., NEW-YORK,
OFFER FOR SALE
any part of $1,000,000 GRAND RAPIDS AND INDIANA RAILROAD COMPANY'S FIRST MORTGAGE BONDS, bearing seven per cent. interest, payable in GOLD, free of Government tax, being the balance remaining unsold of the $4,000,000 First Mortgage Bonds, which are also secured by a LAND GRANT of 1,050,000 acres of choice fine timber land, the proceeds of the sales of which are applied to the redemption of the bonds. Hon. W. A. Howard, Land Commissioner, reports, Dec. 12, that the land sales to that date amount to about 50,000 acres, at an average of $15 per acre. He estimates the proceeds of the entire land grant at not less than $10,000,000, clear of expenses. Two hundred and twenty (220) miles of the railroad are now completed, and earning sufficient money to pay the interest on the whole issue of bonds. Price ninety and accrued interest. We recommend these bonds to investors as a perfectly safe and desirable security.

REPORT OF THE CONDITION OF THE MECHANICS' NATIONAL BANK of the City of New-York, at the close of business on the 16th day of December, 1871.

RESOURCES.

Loans and discounts		$4,731,519 14
Overdrafts		1,285 73
United States bonds to secure circulation		867,000 00
United States bonds on hand		20,550 00
Other stocks, bonds and mortgages		19,250 00
Due from national banks		256,818 36
Due from State banks and bankers		101,022 70
Banking-house		175,000 00
Current expenses	[illegible]	
Taxes paid	[illegible]	40,620 84
Checks and other cash items, including revenue stamps		61,018 48
Exchanges for Clearing-house		4,209,637 55
Bills of national banks		38,416 00
Fractional currency (including nickels)		1,486 59
Specie, viz—Coin	$144,793 34	
Gold Treasury notes	$15,000 00	
Checks on other banks	[illegible]	373,182 70
Legal-tender notes, payable in gold		241,372 00
Clearing-house certificates		250,000 00
Total		$12,[illegible] 40

LIABILITIES.

Capital stock paid in		$2,000,000 00
Surplus fund		400,000 00
Discount	$[illegible] 35	
Interest	[illegible]	
Profit and loss	[illegible]	546,[illegible] 00
Circulating notes outstanding		585,913 00
State bank circulation outstanding		4,750 00
Dividends unpaid		3,476 00
Individual deposits		3,357,607 01
Certified checks		[illegible]
Due to national banks		7,056,140 19
Due to State banks and bankers		[illegible] 70
Total		$12,[illegible] 40

I, WM. H. COX, Cashier of the Mechanics' National Bank of the City of New-York, do solemnly affirm that the above statement is true to the best of my knowledge and belief.
WM. H. COX, Cashier.
State of New-York, County of New-York.—Affirmed and subscribed before me this 22d day of December, 1871.
HANSON C. GIBSON, Notary Public New-York County.
Correct—Attest:
JOHN BULLARD, Jr., WM. L. CHAMBERLAIN, H. E. NESMITH, } Directors.

OFFICE OF THE AMERICAN SUBMARINE COMPANY, No. 59 LIBERTY-ST., ROOM NO. 37, NEW-YORK, Dec. 14, 1871.
THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE stockholders of this Company for the election of trustees to serve for the ensuing year will be held at the office of the Company, Nos. 59 and 61 Liberty-st., Room No. 37, on MONDAY, the 1st day of January, A. D. 1872, at 11 o'clock A. M.
The question of ratifying the past acts and proceedings of the trustees and other officers will also come before the meeting.
By order of the Board.
HENRY WATERMAN, Secretary.

OFFICE OF THE MIDLOTHIAN COAL AND IRON COMPANY, ROOM NO. 8½, TRINITY BUILDING, NO. 111 BROADWAY, NEW-YORK, Dec. 19, 1871.
THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE stockholders of this Company for the election of Directors to serve for the ensuing year will be held at the Company's office on TUESDAY, Jan. 9, 1872, at 12 o'clock M.
The polls will remain open from 12 M. to 2 P. M.
The transfer-books will be closed from Dec. 28, 1871, to Jan. 9, 1872, inclusive.
By order of the Board.
JOHN V. HART, Secretary.

FITCH & ELLIS,
BANKERS, NO. 11 PINE-ST.
Offer safe and desirable
8 per Cent. Bonds at 75 and interest.
10 per Cent. Bonds at 85 and interest.
Strictly first-class Securities a specialty.

DRY GOODS BANK, NEW-YORK, Dec. 19, 1871.
THE ANNUAL ELECTION FOR TWENTY Directors of this Bank, and three Inspectors of the next ensuing election, will be held at the banking-rooms, No. 336 Broadway, on TUESDAY, Jan. 9, 1872, between the hours of 12 M. and 1 P. M.
CHARLES E. BOGERT, Cashier.

THE CHATHAM NATIONAL BANK, NEW-YORK, Dec. 6, 1871.
THE ANNUAL ELECTION FOR FIFTEEN DIRECTORS of this Bank will be held at the bankinghouse, No. 196 Broadway, on TUESDAY, Jan. 9, 1872, between the hours of 12 M. and 1 P. M.
GEO. M. HARD, Cashier.

THE MARKET NATIONAL BANK, NEW-YORK, Dec. 22, 1871.
THE ANNUAL ELECTION FOR DIRECTORS of this bank will be held at the banking-house on TUESDAY, Jan. 9, 1872, between the hours of 12 and 1 o'clock P. M.
A. GILBERT, Cashier.

MANHATTAN GAS-LIGHT COMPANY STOCK.—Want to borrow, $25,000 for six months, on 200 shares Manhattan Gas Stock, or sell the same. Address M. S., Box No. 2,505 Post-office.

ATLANTIC MUTUAL INSURANCE scrip of all issues wanted by WM. C. GILMAN, No. 46 Pine-st., corner William-st.

FINANCIAL.

EDWARD HAIGHT & CO.,
BANKERS,
NO. 9 WALL-ST., NEW-YORK.
FIVE PER CENT. INTEREST ALLOWED ON DEPOSITS.
The business of our firm is the same as any State or National Bank.
Individuals or firms banking with us may deposit and draw as they please, the same as with any Bank, except that we allow 5 per cent. interest on all balances.
We buy and sell Bonds, Stocks, Gold, Business Paper, and collect business notes and drafts throughout the United States, giving prompt returns.

DIVIDENDS.

FORTY-SECOND DIVIDEND.
MANHATTAN SAVINGS INSTITUTION, NOS. 644 and 646 BROADWAY, CORNER OF BLEECKER-ST., Dec. 18, 1871.
The Trustees of this Institution have declared the FORTY-SECOND SEMI-ANNUAL DIVIDEND on all deposits, (by the rules entitled thereto,) at the rate of six per cent. per annum on all sums from $5 to $5,000, payable on and after the third Monday in January.
The dividend will be credited under date of Jan. 1, and if not withdrawn will receive interest the same as a deposit.
E. J. BROWN, President.
EDWARD SCHELL, Treasurer.
C. F. ALVORD, Secretary.

CONTINENTAL NATIONAL BANK, NEW-YORK, Dec. 20, 1871.
THIRTY-FIFTH DIVIDEND.
The Directors of this bank have this day declared a Dividend of Four per Cent. (4 per cent.) free of tax, payable on and after Jan. 2, 1872.
The transfer-book will be closed from the 21st instant.
C. F. TIMPSON, Cashier.

OFFICE OF THE DELAWARE AND HUDSON CANAL COMPANY, NO. 71 BROADWAY, TREASURY DEPARTMENT, NEW-YORK, Dec. 11, 1871.
A DIVIDEND OF THREE AND ONE-HALF PER CENT. (less United States tax) on the stock of the Rensselaer and Saratoga Railroad Company, and a like dividend on the stock of the Albany and Susquehanna Railroad Company, will be paid to the shareholders on and after Jan. 1, 1872, at the National Bank of Commerce, in New-York.
The transfer-books of the Rensselaer and Saratoga Railroad Company will be closed on the evening of 15th inst., at the office of United States Trust Company, and of the Albany and Susquehanna Railroad Company on the same evening at National Bank of Commerce; and the books of both companies will be reopened on the morning of Jan. 3, 1872, at the National Bank of Commerce.
CHARLES F. HARTT, Treasurer Delaware and Hudson Canal Company.

NORWICH AND WORCESTER RAILROAD COMPANY, TREASURER'S OFFICE, NORWICH, Conn., Dec. 13, 1871.
DIVIDEND.—THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS of this Company have this day declared a Dividend of Five per Cent., free of Government tax, payable on the first day of January next, at the New-England Trust Company's Office, No. 22 Devonshire-st., Boston, to the stockholders whose names are on the stock ledger at the close of business on the 15th inst. Transfer-books will be closed from the 22d inst. to the 2d of January, 1872.
The New-England Trust Company, No. 22 Devonshire-st., Boston, is the Transfer Agent of this Company. The Transfer Agency in New-York is closed.
G. L. PERKINS, Treasurer.

HARTFORD AND NEW-HAVEN RAILROAD OFFICE, HARTFORD, Dec. 21, 1871.
NOTICE.—A QUARTERLY DIVIDEND OF three dollars on each share of full stock, and one and [illegible] dollars on each share scrip stock, free of Government tax, standing on the books the 5th inst., has been declared by the Board of Directors of the Hartford and New-Haven Railroad Company, payable on TUESDAY, the 2d day of January, 1872.
Stockholders in New-York will receive their dividend at the Union National Bank.
The transfer-books will be closed from the 24th of December to the 1st of January, both days inclusive.
S. F. CONNER, Secretary.

OFFICE OF CHICAGO AND NORTH-WESTERN RAILWAY COMPANY, NO. 52 WALL-ST., NEW-YORK, Nov. 27, 1871.
A DIVIDEND OF THREE AND ONE-HALF (3½) per cent., less Government tax, has been declared on the preferred stock of this Company, payable at the office of the Company, on and after Dec. 27, 1871, to the preferred stockholders as shown by the books of the Company on the 18th day of December, 1871.
The transfer-books of the preferred stock will be closed on Thursday, Dec. 14, 1871, at the close of business, and reopened on Saturday, Dec. 30, at 10 A. M.
A. L. PRITCHARD, Treasurer.

OFFICE CENTRAL PACIFIC RAILROAD COMPANY, NO. 9 WILLIAM-ST., NEW-YORK, Dec. 22, 1871.
NOTICE.—THE COUPONS OF THE FIRST MORTGAGE BONDS of the CENTRAL PACIFIC RAILROAD COMPANY, the WESTERN PACIFIC RAILROAD COMPANY, and the CALIFORNIA AND OREGON RAILROAD COMPANY, due Jan. 1, 1872, will be paid in full, free of Government tax, on and after this date, at the banking-house of Messrs. Fisk & Hatch, No. 5 Nassau-st. Schedules of coupons will be received for examination after to-day, for which checks will be ready Jan. 1.
C. P. HUNTINGTON, Vice-President.

OFFICE OF THE HAMILTON FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY, NO. 11 WALL-ST., NEW-YORK, Dec. 12, 1871.
THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS HAVE this day declared the regular Semi-annual Dividend of (5) Five per Cent.
ALSO,
An extra Dividend of (5) Five Per Cent.
FREE OF GOVERNMENT TAX.
Payable on and after Jan. 2, 1872.
JAMES GILMORE, Secretary.

THE CENTRAL NATIONAL BANK OF THE CITY OF NEW-YORK, NEW-YORK, Dec. 21, 1871.
THE DIRECTORS OF THIS BANK have this day declared a Semi-Annual Dividend of Four per Cent., free from tax, out of the earnings of current six months, payable on and after TUESDAY, Jan. 2, 1872.
The transfer-books will be closed from the afternoon of Dec. 21 to the morning of Jan. 10, 1872.
C. F. COLES, Cashier.

BANK OF AMERICA, NEW-YORK, Dec. 22, 1871.
THE PRESIDENT AND DIRECTORS of the Bank of America have this day declared a Dividend of (5) Five per Cent. for the current six months, free from tax, payable to the stockholders on and after TUESDAY, Jan. 2, 1872.
The transfer-books will remain closed from this date until the morning of Jan. 4, 1872.
ROBERT JAFFRAY, Cashier.

OFFICE OF THE GREAT WESTERN (MARINE) INSURANCE COMPANY, NEW-YORK, Dec. 22, 1871.
THIRTY-SECOND SEMI-ANNUAL DIVIDEND.—A Semi-annual Cash Dividend of Six per Cent., in gold, free of Government tax, will be paid on the capital stock of this Company, on and after the 2d of January next.
Transfer-books are closed until that date.
By order of the Board of Directors.
WM. C. LOCKWOOD, Secretary.

NATIONAL SHOE AND LEATHER BANK, NEW-YORK, Dec. 15, 1871.
THIRTY-SIXTH DIVIDEND.—THE Directors of this Bank have this day declared a Dividend of Six (6) per Cent., payable, free of all taxes, on and after Jan. 2, 1872. The transfer-book will be closed from 23d inst. to the 2d proximo.
J. M. CRANE, Cashier.

HANOVER NATIONAL BANK, NEW-YORK, Dec. 22, 1871.
DIVIDEND.—THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS have declared a Semi-annual Dividend of Three and One-half per Cent., free of all taxes, payable on the second day of January next. The transfer-book will be closed from this date, until the 2d prox.
JOHN T. BANNER, Cashier.

FOURTH NATIONAL BANK OF THE CITY OF NEW-YORK, NEW-YORK, Dec. 22, 1871.
THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS HAVE this day declared a Dividend of Four per Cent. free of all taxes, payable on and after 2d of January next. The transfer-books will close to-morrow until 3d of January.
ANTHONY LANE, Cashier.

THE BANK OF NEW-YORK NATIONAL BANKING ASSOCIATION, NEW-YORK, Dec. 20, 1871.
THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS HAVE this day declared a Dividend of Five per Cent. free from tax, payable on and after 2d January next.
The transfer-books will be closed until 3d January, 1872.
W. B. MEEKER, Cashier.

DIVIDEND.—THE INSTITUTION FOR the Savings of Merchants' Clerks, No. 20 Union-place, corner of East 15th-st., has declared a Dividend at the rate of six per Cent. per annum on deposits entitled thereto during the six months ending Dec. 31, 1871, of $5, and not exceeding $1,000; and at the rate of Five per Cent. per annum on larger sums, payable Jan. 15, 1872.
MOSES H. GRINNELL, President.
ANDREW WARNER, Secretary.

NATIONAL BUTCHERS' AND DROVERS' BANK, NEW-YORK, Dec. 14, 1871.
THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS HAVE this day declared a Dividend of Five per Cent. from the earnings of the current six months, (free of tax,) payable on and after the 2d of January, 1872.
The transfer-books will remain closed until the 3d prox.
G. G. BRINKERHOFF, Cashier.

NEW-JERSEY RAILROAD AND TRANSPORTATION COMPANY, TREASURER'S OFFICE, No. 111 LIBERTY-ST., NEW-YORK, Dec. 21, 1871.
DIVIDEND.—THE DIRECTORS OF THIS Company have this day declared a Dividend of Seven (7) per Cent., payable on and after Jan. 2, 1872.
The transfer-books will remain closed until the 8th January, 1872.
H. J. SOUTHMAYD, Treas'r.

IMPORTERS' AND TRADERS' NATIONAL BANK OF NEW-YORK, Dec. 20, 1871.
A DIVIDEND OF SIX PER CENT. OUT of the earnings of the past six months, free of all tax, has this day been declared by this bank, payable on the second day of January next. The transfer-books will remain closed until the 2d proximo.
E. H. PERKINS, Jr., Cashier.

BERDAN FIRE-ARMS MANUFACTURING COMPANY.—Dividend.—The Trustees of this Company have declared a dividend of three per cent., payable Jan. 4, 1872, at the office of Messrs. Morton, Bliss & Co., No. 30 Broad-st. Transfer-books closed from Dec. 20 to Jan. 4.
CHARLES E. MILNOR, Treasurer.
NEW-YORK, Dec. 18, 1871.

THE MARKET NATIONAL BANK, NEW-YORK, Dec. 22, 1871.
THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS HAVE this day declared a Semi-annual Dividend of Five (5) per Cent., free of tax, payable to stockholders on and after Jan. 2, 1872. The transfer-books will be closed until that date.
A. GILBERT, Cashier.

MECHANICS' NATIONAL BANK, NEW-YORK, Dec. 20, 1871.
DIVIDEND.—THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS have this day declared a Dividend of Five Per Cent. free from tax, payable on and after 2d January next. Transfer-book will be closed until that date.
WM. H. COX, Cashier.

NATIONAL BROADWAY BANK, NEW-YORK, Dec. 22, 1871.
FORTY-FOURTH DIVIDEND.—A Semi-annual Dividend of $3 per share on the capital stock of this bank, free of all taxes, will be paid on and after Jan. 2, ensuing.
J. L. EVERITT, Cashier.

COUPONS OF THE WEST WISCONSIN RAILWAY COMPANY, maturing Jan. 1, 1872, will be paid on and after Jan. 2, 1872, when presented at the office of the Company, No. 74 Broadway.
F. E. TROWBRIDGE, Treasurer.

DIVIDENDS.

PHILADELPHIA AND READING RAILROAD CO., OFFICE NO. 227 SOUTH 4TH-ST., PHILADELPHIA, Dec. 13, 1871.
DIVIDEND NOTICE.
The Transfer-books of this Company will be closed on the 20th inst., and reopened on Tuesday, Jan. 9, 1872. A dividend of FIVE PER CENT. has been declared on the Preferred and Common Stock, clear of National and State taxes, payable in cash on and after the 18th of January next, to the holders thereof, as they stand registered on the books of the Company at the close of business on the 20th inst. All payable at this office. All orders for dividends must be witnessed and stamped.
S. BRADFORD, Treasurer.

EAST RIVER NATIONAL BANK.
DIVIDEND.
A Dividend of Four (4) Per Cent. free from all taxes, has been declared from the profits of the last six months, payable Jan. 2, 1872.
S. E. NEWELL, Cashier.

THE COUPONS OF THE NEW-YORK AND Oswego Midland Railroad First Mortgage 7 per cent. Gold Bonds due Jan. 1, 1872, will be paid on and after Jan. 2, on presentation at the banking-house of GEO. OPDYKE & CO., No. 25 Nassau-st. Schedules of bonds will be received from 26th inst., on which date the transfer-books of the registered bonds will close, to reopen Jan. 3.
D. C. LITTLEJOHN, President.
OSWEGO, Dec. 18, 1871.

UNION TRUST COMPANY OF NEW-YORK, NO. 73 BROADWAY, CORNER OF RECTOR-ST., NEW-YORK, Dec. 19, 1871.
THIS COMPANY HAS DECLARED a dividend of Five per Cent., free of Government tax, payable on the 2d day of January next.
The transfer-books will close on the 27th inst. and reopen on the 3d of January next.
C. T. CARLTON, Secretary.

MERCHANTS' NATIONAL BANK, NEW-YORK, Dec. 21, 1871.
THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS HAVE this day declared a Semi-annual Dividend of Four (4) Per Cent free of tax, payable on and after TUESDAY, Jan. 2, 1872.
The transfer-books will be closed until Jan. 3.
R. McCARRER(?), Cashier.

NATIONAL TRUST COMPANY OF THE CITY OF NEW-YORK, NEW-YORK, Dec. 21, 1871.
DIVIDEND.—THE TRUSTEES OF THIS Company have declared a Semi-annual Dividend of Four per Cent., free of United States tax, payable on and after the 2d day of January next. Transfer-books closed on and after the 20th inst. until Jan. 2.
JAMES MERRELL, Secretary.

STATE OF MICHIGAN, STATE TREASURER'S OFFICE, LANSING, Dec. 20, 1871.
THE INTEREST DUE JAN. 1, 1872, ON the Bonds issued by the State of Michigan will be paid at the Mercantile National Bank in the City of New-York.
V. P. COLLIER, State Treasurer.

IRVING NATIONAL BANK, NEW-YORK, Dec. 22, 1871.
A DIVIDEND OF FOUR PER CENT., free of all tax, will be paid to the stockholders of this bank on the 2d day of January proximo, until which date the transfer-books will remain closed.
JOHN L. JEWETT, Jr., Cashier.

NEW-YORK, Dec. 22.
THE INTEREST DUE JAN. 1, 1872, on Northern Pacific First Mortgage 7-30 Gold Bonds, will be paid on and after Jan. 2, at the Banking-house of Jay Cooke & Co., No. 20 Wall-st., New-York.
A. H. BARNEY, Treasurer.

GROCERS' BANK, NEW-YORK, Dec. 21, 1871.
A DIVIDEND OF FIVE PER CENT. WILL be paid to the stockholders on and after the 2d day of January next. By order of the Board of Directors.
SAMUEL B. WHITE, Cashier.

MANUFACTURERS' AND BUILDERS' BANK, NEW-YORK, Dec. 14, 1871.
THE DIRECTORS HAVE THIS DAY declared a dividend of Five per Cent., free of all taxes, payable on and after Jan. 10, 1872.
C. A. WATERBURY, Cashier.

NATIONAL BANK OF COMMERCE IN NEW-YORK.—DIVIDEND.—A Semi-annual Dividend of Four per Cent., free from all taxes, has been declared, out of the capital stock of this bank, payable on and after Jan. 2.
H. P. VAIL, Cashier.

NASHVILLE AND CHATTANOOGA RAILROAD COMPANY.—Interest coupons maturing Jan. 1, 1872, will be paid on presentation on and after Jan. 2, 1872, at office of
W. T. STEVENSON & SON, No. 11 Pine-st., New-York.

TRADESMEN'S NATIONAL BANK, NEW-YORK, Dec. 22, 1871.
A DIVIDEND OF SIX PER CENT. will be paid, free of tax, on and after Jan. 2, 1872.
ANTHONY HALSEY, Cashier.

SAVINGS BANKS.

IRVING SAVINGS INSTITUTION,
NO. 96 WARREN-ST., NEW-YORK.
SIX PER CENT. INTEREST allowed on all sums. Bank open daily from 10 A. M. to 3 P. M.
WALTER W. CONCKLIN, President.
VANDERBILT L. BUXTON, Secretary.

East River Savings Institution,
NO. 3 CHAMBERS-ST.
NEW-YORK, Dec. 21, 1871.
FORTY-SEVENTH SEMI-ANNUAL DIVIDEND.
Interest at the rate of Seven (7) per Cent. per annum will be paid on demand, after Jan. 16, on all sums which have remained on deposit for three or six months previous to the 1st day of January, 1872. Interest not called for will be credited as principal deposit.
Bank open daily from 10 to 3, and on Thursdays from 10 to 7.
WM. H. SLOCUM, President.
CHAS. A. WHITNEY, Secretary.

Broadway Savings Institution.
NO. 237 BROADWAY, entrance on Park-place.
Interest, on deposits entitled thereto, for the six months ending Dec. 31, at the rate of Six per Cent. per annum, on all sums of $5 and upward, will be paid on and after Monday, Jan. 15, 1872.
FRANCIS P. SCHOALS, President.
WADE B. WORRALL, Sec. PETER CUMMING, Acct.

THIRD-AVENUE SAVINGS BANK.
CORNER 26TH-AV. AND 26TH-ST.
NEW-YORK, Dec. 21, 1871.
INTEREST.—Semi-annual interest at the rate of Six per Cent. per annum on all sums from $5 to $5,000 will be paid on and after the third Monday in January. Interest will be added to accounts Jan. 1, and if not drawn becomes principal.
All money deposited now or on or before the 10th of January, will draw interest from Jan. 1.
Bank open daily from 10 A. M. to 3 P. M., and on Monday, Wednesday and Saturday evenings from 5 to 7 o'clock.
JOHN H. LYON, President.
GEO. L. HAIGHT, Secretary.

METROPOLITAN SAVINGS BANK.
Nos. 1 and 3 3d-av., New-York, opposite Cooper Institute.
CHARTERED IN 1852.
DEPOSITS [illegible]
THIRTY-SEVENTH DIVIDEND.
Interest, at the rate of Six per Cent. per annum, will be paid to depositors on and after Jan. 17, 1872; or if not withdrawn, will be added to the account and draw interest from Jan. 1.
Interest begins Jan. 1 on new deposits of $5 and upward. ONE DOLLAR received on deposit.
BY ORDER OF THE TRUSTEES.
ISAAC T. SMITH, President.
T. W. LILLIE, Secretary.

MUTUAL BENEFIT SAVINGS BANK.
No. 166 NASSAU-ST., (Sun Building,) New-York.
DIVIDEND.—A Semi-annual Dividend, at the rate of SIX PER CENT. PER ANNUM, on all sums of $5 and upward, which have been on deposit one or more months next previous to Jan. 1, will be credited and paid Jan. 22, 1872.
INTEREST not called for will remain as principal, drawing interest accordingly. Bank open daily 10 to 3, and on MONDAY and SATURDAY EVENINGS, from 5 to 7 o'clock.
CHARLES K. GRAHAM, President.
G. H. BENEDICT, Secretary.

CHARTERED BY THE UNITED STATES.
THE FREEDMAN'S SAVINGS AND TRUST COMPANY, NATIONAL SAVINGS BANK,
No. 185 Bleecker-st., New-York.
Interest every thirty days if desired. Six per cent. compound. Interest certificates issued. Letters of credit for travelers issued, bearing interest. Accounts strictly private and confidential. Deposits paid on demand, with interest due. Interest paid by check to parties out of the City. Send for circular.
SAM. L. HARRIS, Manager.
JOHN J. ZUILLE, Cashier.

EXCELSIOR SAVINGS BANK.
No. 274 6th-av., corner 23d-st.
Deposits made now draw interest from Jan. 1, at SIX PER CENT.
The semi-annual interest will be paid on and after Jan. 16, and if not drawn will be credited to accounts and bear interest from Jan. 1.
Open daily from 10 A. M. to 3 P. M., and on MONDAY, WEDNESDAY and SATURDAY, evenings from 6 to 8 o'clock.
WM. M. GILES, President.
ISAAC S. BARRETT, Secretary.

MECHANICS' AND TRADERS' SAVINGS INSTITUTION,
NO. 283 BOWERY, NEAR HOUSTON-ST.
SIX PER CENT. interest allowed on all sums from $5 to $5,000. Deposits made now draw interest from Jan. 1. Open daily from 10 A. M. to 3 P. M. Mondays and Wednesdays from 5 to 7 P. M.
ALFRED T. CONKLIN, President.
HENRY C. FISHER, Secretary.

IRVING SAVINGS INSTITUTION,
No. 96 Warren-st.
NEW-YORK, Dec. 22, 1871.
The Trustees of this Institution have directed that a Dividend of SIX PER CENT. per annum be paid upon all sums entitled thereto, payable on and after the 15th of January.
WALTER W. CONCKLIN, President.
VANDERBILT L. BUXTON, Secretary.

1872.—JANUARY INTEREST.
CITIZENS' SAVINGS BANK,
Corner of Bowery and Canal-st.
The twenty-third semi-annual interest Dividend, at the rate of six per cent. per annum, will be credited and paid on and after MONDAY, Jan. 22. On deposits made now, interest will commence from Jan. 1.
E. A. QUINTARD, President.
SEYMOUR A. BUNCE, Secretary.

UNION DIME SAVINGS BANK.
Nos. 396 and 398 Canal-st., corner Laight.
SIX PER CENT. INTEREST on $5 to $5,000. Money deposited now, will bear interest from Jan. 1.
ASSETS, $10,375,199 95.

DENTISTRY.

COLTON DENTAL ASSOCIATION originated the anæsthetic use of nitrous oxide gas, administer it in the most approved manner, do nothing but extract teeth, and they certainly do that without pain, as 61,000 patients testify. See their signatures at the office, No. 19 Cooper Institute.

STATIONERY.

SLOTE & JANES, STATIONERS, PRINTERS and blank-book manufacturers, No. 93 Fulton-st. Blank-books made to any pattern.

SHIPPING.

CUNARD LINE.
THE BRITISH AND NORTH AMERICAN ROYAL MAIL STEAM-SHIPS, BETWEEN NEW-YORK AND LIVERPOOL VIA GALWAY.
FROM NEW-YORK.
CUBA.....Wednesday, Dec. 27
ABYSSINIA.....Saturday, Jan. 6, 7 A. M.
ALGERIA.....Wednesday, Jan. 10, 12
PERSIA.....Saturday, Jan. 13, 12
ALPS.....Wednesday, Jan. 22, 12
FROM BOSTON.
ALPS.....Saturday, Dec. 23
ABYSSINIA.....Saturday, Jan. 6, 12
SAMARIA.....Saturday, Jan. 13, 12
CUBA.....Saturday, Jan. 27, 12
Cabin, $80, $100 and $120, gold, according to accommodation.
Tickets to Paris, $145, gold, additional.
Return tickets on favorable terms.
Steerage, $30, currency. Steerage passengers provided with bedding, knives, forks, spoons, and all necessary cooking utensils.
Through Bills of Lading given for Baltic, Glasgow, Havre, Antwerp and other ports on the Continent.
For freight and cabin passage apply at the Company's Office, No. 4 Bowling-Green.
For freight and cabin passage, Boston, Trinity Building, No. 4 Bowling-Green.
CHAS. G. FRANCKLYN, Agent.

NATIONAL LINE.
STEAM TO QUEENSTOWN AND LIVERPOOL, VIA BOSTON.
ITALY, Thursday, Saturday, Dec. 29, at 7:30 A. M.
THE QUEEN, Thomas, Saturday, Jan. 6, at 12 M.
NEVADA, Nichols, Saturday, Jan. 13, at 7:30 A. M.
ERIN, Grace, Saturday, Jan. 20, at 12 M.
Passage to Queenstown or Liverpool, including tender, Cabin, $70 and $80, currency; steerage, $30 currency.
Prepaid steerage tickets from Liverpool, Queenstown and London, $30 currency.
For further particulars apply at the Company's Office, No. 69 Broadway.
JAS. F. RUSSELL, Agent.

UNION LINE FOR QUEENSTOWN AND LIVERPOOL.
Royal Mail Steamers are expected to sail as follows:
CITY OF BALTIMORE.....Saturday, Dec. 30, 8 A. M.
CITY OF WASHINGTON, Saturday, Jan. 6, 1 P. M.
CITY OF LONDON.....Saturday, Jan. 13, 8 A. M.
CITY OF ANTWERP.....Saturday, Jan. 20, 7 A. M.
CITY OF PARIS.....Saturday, Jan. 27, 7 A. M.
AND EVERY SUCCEEDING SATURDAY AND THURSDAY, from Pier No. 45 North River.
RATES OF PASSAGE.

Payable in Gold.	Payable in Currency.
First cabin, $80	$80
To London, $85	$85
To Paris, $145	$145
Passage to and from Havre, Hamburg, Bremen, $100 currency.	

Tickets to Brest, Christiania or Copenhagen at lowest rates by per...
For further information, apply at the Company's office.
JOHN G. DALE, Agent,
No. 15 Broadway, New-York.

ANCHOR LINE.
Steamships sail every WEDNESDAY and SATURDAY, to and from
NEW-YORK AND GLASGOW.
Passengers booked and forwarded to and from all railway stations in Great Britain, Ireland, France, Norway, Sweden by Direct Route, and America as safely, speedily, comfortably and cheaply as by any other route.
THE NEW DEPARTURES.
FROM GLASGOW. FROM NEW-YORK.
Saturday, Dec. 9. EUROPA. Saturday, Dec. 23.
Saturday, Dec. 16. INDIA. Saturday, Jan. 6.
Saturday, Dec. 23. ITALY. Saturday, Jan. 13.
Saturday, Dec. 30. ANGLIA. Tuesday, Jan. 23.
And every WEDNESDAY and SATURDAY thereafter from Pier 20 North River, New-York, at noon.
Cabin passage, payable in currency, to Liverpool, Glasgow or Derry, $75 and $85, according to location.
First cabin, $65 and $70, according to location.
Cabin excursion tickets good for twelve months, at reduced rates.
Intermediate, $35; steerage, $28.
Certificates at lowest rates can be bought here by those wishing to send for their friends.
Drafts issued, payable on presentation.
Apply to HENDERSON BROTHERS, No. 7 Bowling-Green.

ONLY DIRECT LINE TO FRANCE.
THE GENERAL TRANSATLANTIC COMPANY'S MAIL STEAM-SHIPS BETWEEN NEW-YORK AND HAVRE, CALLING AT BREST.
The splendid vessels on this favorite route for the Continent will sail from Pier No. 50 North River as follows:
ST. LAURENT.....LEBARON.....Saturday, Dec. 30
WASHINGTON.....LOUIS.....Saturday, Jan. 13
VILLE DE PARIS.....SURMONT.....Saturday, Jan. 27
PEREIRE.....DARSE.....Saturday, Feb. 10
PRICE OF PASSAGE IN GOLD (including wine)
TO BREST OR HAVRE.
First cabin.....$125 | Second cabin.....$75
Excursion tickets at reduced rates.
These steamers do not carry steerage passengers.
Passengers going to Paris can save time by taking the Brest route, and both transit by English railway and the Continent, by avoiding the English Custom-house delay, double ferriage and extra hotel bills.
GEORGE MACKENZIE, Agent,
No. 6 Broadway.

FOR LIVERPOOL,
(VIA QUEENSTOWN),
CARRYING THE UNITED STATES MAILS.
THE LIVERPOOL AND GREAT WESTERN STEAM COMPANY will dispatch one of their first-class full-powered iron steamers every SATURDAY, from PIER NO. 46 NORTH RIVER, EVERY WEDNESDAY, as follows:
WYOMING, Capt. WHITNEY.....Dec. 27, at 2 P. M.
MINNESOTA, Capt. MORGAN.....Jan. 3, at 11 A. M.
IDAHO, Capt. FRICE.....Jan. 10, at 2 P. M.
MANHATTAN, Capt. JAS. PRICE.....Jan. 17, at 2 P. M.
COLORADO, Capt. J. G. FREEMAN.....Jan. 24, at 2 P. M.
WISCONSIN, Capt. T. W. FREEMAN.....Jan. 31, at 2 P. M.
Cabin passage, $80, gold.
Steerage, $30, currency, including all provisions, bedding and utensils.
For freight or cabin passage apply to
WILLIAMS & GUION, No. 5 Wall st.

PACIFIC MAIL STEAM-SHIP COMPANY'S LINE TO
CALIFORNIA, JAPAN AND CHINA,
VIA PANAMA.
CARRYING MAILS, PASSENGERS AND FREIGHT TO
KINGSTON, JAMAICA, SANTA MARTHA AND GREYTOWN, ALSO, PACIFIC COAST OF MEXICO, CENTRAL AMERICA, PERU AND CHILI.
Steamers leave 15th and 30th each month, except when these dates fall on Sunday, then the day previous.
Dec. 30.—Steamer HENRY CHAUNCEY, Capt. A. G. Dall, will leave Pier No. 42 North River, at 12 o'clock, M., for Kingston, Jamaica, connecting at Panama with steamer CONSTITUTION, Capt. ——; also connecting for all Central American ports.
Steamer GREAT REPUBLIC will leave San Francisco, Jan. 1, 1872, for Japan and China. For rates of passage, freight and all further information, apply at Company's office on the pier, foot of Canal-st.
F. R. RABY, Agent.

FOR ST. THOMAS AND BRAZIL.
UNITED STATES AND BRAZIL STEAM-SHIP COMPANY.
REGULAR MAIL STEAMERS calling on the 15th of every month.
NORTH AMERICA, Capt. G. R. SLOUN.....Dec. 23
MERRIMACK, Capt. WING.....Jan. 23
SOUTH AMERICA, Capt. [illegible].....Feb. 23
These splendid steamers have superior accommodations for passengers, and carry the United States Mail and call at St. Thomas, Pernambuco, Bahia and Rio de Janeiro, going and returning. For freight or passage, apply at office, No. 2 Broadway, New-York.

UNITED STATES MAIL TO HAVANA, NASSAU AND KEY WEST.
ATLANTIC MAIL STEAM-SHIP COMPANY.
Sailing every SATURDAY, at 3 o'clock P. M., from Pier No. 5 North River.
MISSOURI, Capt. T. H. NORTON, (via Nassau,) Dec. 9.
MORRO CASTLE, Capt. T. S. CURTIS, (via Key West,) Jan. 6.
COLUMBIA, Capt. E. VAN SICE, (via Nassau,) Jan. 11.
For freight or passage apply to
A. E. DINSMORE, President,
No. 5 Bowling-green.

FOR NASSAU, N. P., AND HAVANA, THE ROYAL MAIL STEAM-SHIP COMPANY'S STEAMER MISSOURI, Capt. T. H. NORTON, will sail on THURSDAY, Dec. 28, at 3 o'clock P. M., precisely, from Pier No. 5 North River.
For freight or passage apply to
A. W. DEROSE, President,
No. 5 Bowling-green.

DIRECT LINE TO HAVANA.
HAVANA, PROGRESO AND VERA CRUZ.
New-York and Mexico Mail Steam-ship Line.
Leaving Pier 47 N. River, at 3 P. M., direct to Havana.
CLEOPATRA, Pelligrini (Havana only), Sat., Dec. 23
CITY OF MEXICO, Trmasini.....Wednesday, Jan. 3
CLEOPATRA, Pelligrini (Havana only), Satur., Jan. 13
CITY OF MERIDA, Delano.....Tuesday, Jan. 23
For freight or passage apply to
F. ALEXANDER & SONS, No. 12 Broadway.

NOTICE TO SEAMEN.
Families of seamen, and all others interested in the Children of Neptune, who may happen to arrive in this city, should never leave their vessels without the "Seamen's Friend," containing the laws relating to the rights of seamen, regulations and compilations of shipping documents, the Seamen's Protection and Relief Act, the Seamen's Boarding-house Act, Instructions and an Infinity of Money Saving Matter. Distributed gratuitously to every port of the Christian World. Copies of the "Seamen's Friend" may be obtained at the Seamen's Friend Society, Rooms 80 and 82 Cedar-st., or of the Agent, near the Tuileries Garden, Paris.

SHIPPING.

FOR SAVANNAH, GA.,
THE FLORIDA PORTS,
AND THE SOUTH AND SOUTH-WEST.
GREAT SOUTHERN FREIGHT AND PASSENGER LINE.
GEORGIA, CAROLINA AND FLORIDA STEAMSHIP LINE.
LANDING AT BAY STREET WHARF, BROOKLYN, EVERY WEEK.
TUESDAYS, THURSDAYS AND SATURDAYS.
THE STEAMSHIPS
LEO, Capt. DEARBORN, TUESDAY, Dec. 26, from Pier No. 16 East River, at 3 P. M.
MURRAY, HERRIS & CO., Agents,
No. 2 South-st.
GENERAL BARNES, Capt. MALLORY, THURSDAY, Dec. 28, from Pier No. 26 North River, at 3 P. M.
LIVINGSTON, FOX & CO., Agents,
No. 197 West-st.
MAGNOLIA, Capt. PALMER, SATURDAY, Dec. 30, from Pier No. 6 North River, at 3 P. M.
WM. R. GARRISON, Agent,
No. 5 Bowling-green.
HUNTSVILLE, Capt. CROWELL, SATURDAY, Dec. 30, from Pier No. 6 North River, at 3 P. M.
J. LOWDEN, Agent,
No. 16 West-st.
Insurance by this line ONE-HALF PER CENT. Superior accommodations for passengers.
Through Bills of Lading to points in connection with the Atlantic and Gulf Freight line.
Through rates and bills of lading in connection with Central Railroad of Georgia, to all points.
C. D. OWEN, Agent A. G. & G. R. R.,
No. 29 Broadway.
GEORGE TONGE, Agent C. R. R.,
No. 29 Broadway.

INLAND ROUTE TO FLORIDA.
THE NEW AND SPLENDID STEAMER LIZZIE BAKER
will leave Palatka's Wharf, EVERY MONDAY and THURSDAY MORNING, at 5 o'clock for WATERMAN'S BLUFF, GA., FERNANDINA, AND JACKSONVILLE, FLA., connecting at Jacksonville with BROOKS & BLISS STEAMSHIP LINE for Green Cove, Tocoi, Palatka, Enterprise, Melrosville, and other landings on St. John's River.
RETURNING,
will leave Jacksonville TUESDAYS and FRIDAYS, at 12 o'clock, M., arriving in Savannah WEDNESDAYS and SATURDAYS. All intermediate landings touched at both ways, except Darien.
Through tickets only to agents in New-York of the regular steamship lines.
JOHN F. ROBERTSON, Agent.

HOLIDAY GOODS.

FOUNTAIN'S INDIA STORE
NEW GOODS IN ENDLESS VARIETIES.
OPPOSITE WALLACK'S, UPSTAIRS.
BRONZES, SILKS, SHAWLS, CHINA, &c.
MORTON'S GOLD PENS.
Also a large variety of
GOLD PENCILS,
PEN-CASES,
and
GOLD MOUNTED RUBBER GOODS,
SIZES AND VARIETIES
for
HOLIDAY PRESENTS,
THE BEST AND CHEAPEST.
NO. 25 MAIDEN-LANE.

AUCTION SALES.

WHEREAS, THE FREDERICKSBURG and Gordonsville Railroad Company of Virginia, by their deed of mortgage, dated the 1st day of January, 1866, and recorded in Hustings Court, City of Richmond, State of Virginia, aforesaid, in Deed Book T. T., pages 163 to 178 inclusive, and in the several counties through which the Fredericksburg and Gordonsville Railroad runs, did convey to the Farmers' Loan and Trust Company of the City of New-York, and its Successors the Trustees therein and therein described, as follows:
"All and singular the railroad of the said party of the first part, from and including the terminus and depot at Fredericksburg, in the County of Spotsylvania, State of Virginia, and thence on the usual route and depot at Charlottesville, in the County of Albemarle, State aforesaid, a distance of sixty-two miles, together with all and singular the tracks, works, lines, rails, bridges, ways, rights of ways and materials, buildings, piers, wharves, erections, fences, walls, fixtures, privileges, franchises, rights, and interests, real estate and personal property, tangible and intangible, of the said party of the first part, and belonging to the said party of the first part, of every kind, nature and character in the State of Virginia, and all the issues and profits to be had or derived from the same or any part or portion thereof, or any thereof, upon the portion of said term or terms or other of them, and all rights to receive or recover the same, and all railway stations and depots, with all the appurtenances necessary or convenient, or theole, complete and entire use and enjoyment of the said railroad, and all the appurtenances of the said road or railways owned or leased by the party of the first part, and also all the locomotives, engines, tenders, cars, carriages, tools, and machinery, belonging or appertaining to the said railroad and railways, and used therewith, and all improvements or additions made or to be made to any one or all of said properties, estates, railroads or railways, and their appurtenances by the said party of the first part or by others; also all and every other estate, interest, property or thing which the said party of the first part now and hold or may or shall hereafter acquire, and hold necessary or convenient for the use, occupation and enjoyment of all or any of the said railroads, powers, leases and property, rights, privileges and franchises or any part or portion thereof, and which shall and privileges to use the said road-beds, tracks, sidings, turnouts, connections, and the same to be constructed for the convenient use of said railroad or railways, or any of them, owned or leased by the said party of the first part, as fully and effectually as the said company, party of the first part, is or may be by law entitled to have or enjoy."
Which conveyance so made to the said the Farmers' Loan and Trust Company, of the City of New-York, was made to it as Trustee, to secure the payment of five hundred bonds of one thousand dollars each, and of one thousand bonds of five hundred dollars each, executed by the said The Fredericksburg and Gordonsville Railroad Company, of Virginia, all payable on the 1st day of November, 1896, and payable to the bearer thereof, in gold coin of the United States of America, at the City of New-York, on the first day of November, which will be in the year one thousand eight hundred and ninety-nine, with interest, at the rate of six per centum per annum, payable semi-annually, in gold, in the City of New-York, upon the first day of May and the first day of November in each year.
And whereas, it is provided in said mortgage deed, that if the interest on any of said bonds shall not be paid when the same shall become due, and if such interest shall remain in arrears for three months, that then the said Trustee, or the Trustees for the time being, or the holders of at least one-third of said bonds, shall cause the said premises, real and personal estate, rights and franchises therein described, to be sold at public auction, in the City of Richmond, in the State of Virginia, or in the City of New-York, as the Trustee may elect, as and in the manner provided in said deed.
And whereas the semi-annual interest which became payable on said bonds on the first day of November, A. D. 1870, and also the semi-annual interest which became payable on said bonds on the first day of May, 1871, has remained in arrears for three months, and more, and the said The Fredericksburg and Gordonsville Railroad Company of Virginia has made default in the payment thereof, and the holders of more than one-third of said bonds have requested the said Trustee to proceed to sell the said premises, real and personal estate, rights and franchises, according to the provisions of said deed.
And whereas, the said Trustee has elected that the same shall be sold at public auction in the City of New-York.
Now, therefore, the said The Farmers' Loan and Trust Company of the City of New-York, Trustee as aforesaid, in conformity with the provisions of said Deed of Mortgage, will, on the 26th day of December, A. D. 1871, at 12 o'clock noon, on that day, at the Exchange Salesroom, No. 111 Broadway, in the City of New-York aforesaid, proceed to sell the above-described property, rights and franchises, and will then and there cause the same to be sold at public auction, to the highest bidder, by Adrian H. Muller, P. T. Ackerman & Co., Auctioneers.
THE FARMERS' LOAN AND TRUST COMPANY, Trustees.
By R. G. HOLSTON, President.
Isaac N. Bickham & Woodruff, attorneys, No. 102 Broadway, New-York.

359 OIL-PAINTINGS,
JUST RECEIVED FROM PARIS,
AND SOLD FOR ACCOUNT OF CONSIGNEES.
Among them are examples by
Guillemainet, Troyon, Dupre, Sauvage, Hellouin, Auny, Vieux, Alaux, Delacroix, Comontier, Perret, Dessar, Roewies, Vilcoutt, Fenosha, Goutier, Dubayre, Labrun, Gil, &c.
Also, copies from
Meissonier, Rosa Bonheur, Boucher, &c.,
and comprising
LANDSCAPE, FLOWER PIECES,
STREET SCENES, CATTLE PIECES,
HISTORICAL AND FIGURE PIECES, &c.,
some of great merit and reputation.
The whole to be sold as they are, for what they will bring, without reserve or limitation, at the
CLINTON HALL SALE-ROOMS,
THURSDAY AND FRIDAY EVENINGS,
Dec. 28 and 29, at 7½ o'clock.
Now on exhibition at the Clinton Hall Sale-rooms.
GEO. A. LEAVITT & CO.,
Clinton Hall, Astor-place, New-York.
JOHN H. DRAPER & CO., Auctioneers.

THE DELAWARE, LACKAWANNA AND WESTERN RAILROAD COMPANY will sell
120,000 TONS SCRANTON COAL
at public auction, on WEDNESDAY, Dec. 27, at 12 o'clock noon, at No. 36 Exchange-place.
SAMUEL HORN, President.
EDWARD M. BROWN, Auctioneer.

BENTLEY BROTHERS & CO.—
TUESDAY, Dec. 26, at 11 o'clock, within their store—
200 cases fresh Valencia Oranges, ex steamers Cuba and City of New-York.

PRIVATE SALE OF VALUABLE AND
Fashionable oil-paintings, to take place THIS and following days, at No. 405 5th-av., corner of 37th-st.

SURROGATE NOTICES.

IN PURSUANCE OF AN ORDER OF Robert C. Hutchings, Esq., Surrogate of the County of New-York, notice is hereby given to all persons having claims against DAVID EVERETT WHEELER, late of the City of New-York, deceased, to exhibit the same, with vouchers thereof, to the subscribers, at No. 52 William-st., in the City of New-York, on or before the 1st day of July next.—Dated New-York, the 9th day of December, 1871.
E. P. WHEELER,
M. H. SMITH,
C. B. SMITH, } Executors.
dll-iawsmM*

DRY GOODS.

NEW-YEAR'S GIFTS.
AT THE GREAT EAST-SIDE ESTABLISHMENT.
E. RIDLEY & SON,
GRAND-ST., NEW-YORK.
LINEN HANDKERCHIEFS, 8c., 10c., 12c., 15c, 20c. each.
Fine lines of REAL LACE COLLARS, SETS, COIFFURES, BARBES, &c., at 50c. on the dollar.
NEEDLE-WORKED SETS, COLLARS, SLEEVES, &c., everything desirable, cheap.
Two lots of REAL THREAD VAILS, at $2 50 and $4 50, worth double; inspect.
IMITATION COLLARS, 10c., 15c., 25c., 50c. each, up.
CHEAP GOODS all over the house.
SASH RIBBONS, ALL SILK, seven inches wide, 50c., 75c. and 87c.
WEATHERS, FLOWERS, DRESS AND CLOAK TRIMMINGS.
SILK FRINGES, CORSETS, YANKEE NOTIONS, JEWELRY, PERFUMERY, FANCY BOXES, &c., &c.
All our TOYS and DOLLS clearing at
NOMINAL PRICES MERELY.
THREE-DOLLAR VELVETEEN at $1 25 per yard.
TWO-DOLLAR VELVETEENS at 50c. and 75c. per yard.
BONNET and MANTILLA VELVETS cheap.

KID GLOVES,
One and two BUTTONS, at 50c., 75c., 98c., $1 and $1 25.
NEW CROWN GLOVE, in one, two, three, four, five and six buttons, in all colors and sizes.
Ladies' and GENTS' FULL ASSORTMENT.

HOLIDAYS!!
About 144 dozen BONNETS marked down to per right, 1st, 2d, 3d, 4th, 5th. These have been sold from $1 to $2.
All our MILLINERY, INFANTS and LADIES' SUITS, CLOAKS and UNDER-GARMENTS marked down.

FUR STOCK
WILL REPAY AN INSPECTION.
EDWARD RIDLEY & SON,
Nos. 309, 311, 311½ Grand; Nos. 62, 64, 66, 68 and 70 FIFTH-STREET, FIRST BLOCK EAST FROM THE BOWERY.

NEW YEAR'S GIFTS,
At the
GREAT EAST-SIDE ESTABLISHMENT.
E. RIDLEY & SON,
GRAND-ST., NEW-YORK.
GENTS' FURNISHING DEPARTMENT.
FINE LINE OF BOWS, SCARFS AND NECK-TIES.
GENTS' KID GLOVES, $1 pair up.
100 new styles of WINTER GLOVES and CUFFS.
UNDER-SHIRTS and DRAWERS at 65c., 75c., $1 up.
HOSIERY, SOCKS, SHIRTS, DRIVING-GLOVES, COLLARS, CUFFS.
LINED KID GLOVES, $1 25 pair.
BUCKSKIN GLOVES at 25c. pair.
Edward Ridley & Son,
Nos. 309, 311, 311½ Grand, Nos. 62, 64, 66, 68 and 70 Allen-st.
FIFTH BLOCK EAST FROM THE BOWERY.

ARNOLD, CONSTABLE & CO.
Broadway and 19th-st.,
NEW-YORK.
FRENCH, ENGLISH AND AMERICAN
UMBRELLAS,
MOUNTED IN CORNELIAN, PEARL, IVORY, AND RUSTIC HANDLES, AT VERY LOW PRICES.
Large Additions
WILL BE MADE TO OUR STOCK OF
Holiday Dresses,
IN SERGES, POPLINS, PLAIDS, ENGLISH AND DOMESTIC PRINTS, &c., &c.
N. B.—The above are placed on separate counters for the convenience of customers.

LADIES'
FURNISHING DEPARTMENT,
REPLETE WITH EVERY REQUISITE FOR
LADIES, MISSES AND INFANTS,
AT MODERATE PRICES
FOR
FIRST-CLASS WORK.
GENTLEMEN'S
FURNISHING DEPARTMENT.
House and Smoking Jackets, in Velveteen, Cloth, and other Materials.
Robes de Chambre, Cardigan Jackets, Mid. Sec.-skin, Castor and Plush-lined Gloves, Fancy Scarfs, Ties, Cravats, Ruffles, Plain and Embroidered Shirt Fronts, Linen and Muslin Shirts, Collars and Cuffs, Buckskin Under-wear, in Great Variety,
AT VERY LOW PRICES.

KID GLOVES.
"Cheseman's" celebrated make, from 1 to 6 Buttons, all Colors and Sizes.
Gents' Buck, Unlt, Dog and Castor Gloves and Gauntlets, with and without fringes.
Ladies' Undressed Kid and Castor Gloves, 2 Buttons.
Gents' Fur Driving Gauntlets, Collarettes, &c., in Beaver, Seal-skin, and Other Fur.
Grecian Calf, Embroidered Buckskin Gauntlets.
Ladies', Gents' and Children's Cloth Gloves, all sizes and shades.
At Extremely Low Prices.
JUST RECEIVED PER STEAMER CUBA.
BLACK CORDED
HAIR-CLOTH.
BERNHEIMER & NEWMAN,
NOS. 83 AND 85 WORTH-ST.
HOLIDAY PRESENTS.
EXTRAORDINARY LOW PRICES
IN
BLACK GUIPURE LACES,
BLACK THREAD LACES,
REAL POINT LACES,
POINT APPLIQUE LACES,
VALENCIENNES LACES,
COLLARS,
SETS,
HANDKERCHIEFS,
BARBES,
COIFFURES.
DRESS ETC.
The above goods, bought at the recent auction sales, are fully 25 per cent. below the market prices.
BURNETT WILLIAMS, No. 77 Broadway.

COAL.

CANNEL COAL.
BEST (INCE HALL) CANNEL,
BEST (HALLIBURTON'S) ORREL,
ALSO,
A Superior American ORREL COAL,
JEREMIAH SKIDMORE & SONS,
No. 14 Wall-st. No. 253 Cherry-st.
Corner 12th-st. and 4th-av., foot of 18th-st, East River, 35th-st. and 1st-av., East River.

MARBLE MANTELS.

A. MEARES'S MARBLE AND MARBLE Mantel Works, Nos. 134 and 136 East 13th-st. Marble and marbleized mantels, tiling, marble counters, monuments at prices that defy competition. Marble turning for the trade.

HORSES, AND CARRIAGES.

GOODENOUGH
HORSE-SHOEING ESTABLISHMENT,
Nos. 148 and 150 West 27th-st., corner 6th-av.
ISRAEL A. WATSON, Proprietor.
Having been into Chief Veterinary Surgeon in the Quartermaster's Department of the United States Army, Dr. BRAILEY will pay special attention to all diseases of the horse.

RUSSIAN SLEIGH-BELLS.
The only real ones in the City.
Horse blankets and fur robes in every variety.
Fine harness of all descriptions.
At the old established English importing house.
No. 62 Warren-st., corner of College-place.

HOLIDAY PRESENTS.
LANDAUS, COUPES, HAM'S Patent Landaulets, Chaises and Harness, $100 LESS THAN MY USUAL PRICE if purchased for presents.
HAM'S NO. 10 EAST 4TH-ST., NEW-YORK.

SLEIGHS, SLEIGHS, SLEIGHS.
500 sleighs, all styles, pony, six seat, swell, Portland, &c., from $50 up; the largest assortment in the City. Robes, bells, &c. Empire City Repository.
WM. H. GRAY, Nos. 22 and 23 Wooster-st.

SLEIGH-BELLS AND HORSE-BLANKETS.
In large assortment at HARMER, HAYS & CO., No. 72 Beekman-st.

ELEGANT PORTLAND SLEIGHS
by EIMBALL and other first-class makers.
No. 2, CAST, Jr.,
No. 1,505 Broadway, near 46th-st.

STEVENS' SLEIGHS.—AN ASSORTMENT of Portland and Albany pony sleighs and quiters, five six-seat sleighs, one fall-seat light cutter, Pony sleigh, with runners (same as sent East of 34th-st. sculptors). Have in process our renowned Dexter speed and Eureka cutters, that can finish to terms of Dec. 1st. STEVENS' WAREROOMS, Nos. 146 to 152 West 31st-st., between 3d and 4th ave.

BREWSTER & CO., OPERGOE-ST.
Have just received a large assortment of fall-st. a large stock of sleigh materials and repairs, also EXCLUSIVELY OF THEIR OWN MANUFACTURE, and of the best quality only. SOLE AGENTS FOR CALLOOF'S LAP-ROB WALLS.

FREDERICK E. WOOD, NO. 239 AND 241 West 16th-st., has in process of construction new styles of family and first-class livery carriages, elegance and durability combined to suit taste of purchasers. Also, prepared to take orders for his light road and pleasure wagons, which in style, quality of material and workmanship are without superior.

DEXTER SLEIGH-BELLS.—SLEIGHS, Great bargains; carriages, sleighs every style; several left over from last season; new and second hand horse-clothes, robes, at MANUFACTURERS' UNION DEPOT, No. 68 Broadway.

SLEIGHS.—DEXTER SLEIGH-BELLS, Russian bells, and all other sleigh bells at lowest popular prices; several left over from last season cheap at MANUFACTURERS' UNION DEPOT, No. 68 Broadway.

CARRIAGES, WAGONS AND SLEIGHS.—100 second-hand carriages, family coaches, open phaetons, but little used, selling off at half original cost; also, 100 sleighs. WITTY'S Manufactory, Fulton and Nevins sts., Brooklyn.

SLEIGH-BELLS, WHOLESALE AND Retail, the largest assortment ever offered, and greatly reduced prices; lot 200 strans sulled bells over from last season, cheap, at MANUFACTURERS' UNION, No. 68 Broadway.

FOR SALE—CHEAP—DOUBLE COUPE harness; made to order; as good as new. Inquire at No. 63 West 41st-st., or address Box No. 4,178 Post-office.

ELEGANT WHITE ASTRAKAN robe, $60; three black bear, $40, $50, $75; fine fox, $30; wolf, $20. WEBBER, 467 Canal and 21st-st.

BOARDING AND LODGING.

BOARDING.—THE SUBSCRIBER WOULD like to receive a family to board for the Winter at his country residence; location pleasant, with home comforts and conveniences; only terms, moderate to desirable parties. Address R. H. H., Esopus, Ulster County, N. Y.

MARLBOROUGH HOUSE, NO. 646 Sth-av., (Murray Hill.)—This new and elegantly furnished house has a few suites and single rooms vacant, offering extra accommodations for transient and permanent guests. W. L. FISH.

MADISON-SQUARE HOTEL, NO. 14 East 21st-st., corner of Broadway. One elegant suite of rooms, first floor, with or without private table; also, other rooms.

NO. 47 WEST 29TH-ST.—ELEGANTLY furnished parlor floor, with or without private table; other desirable rooms and physician's office; house and location first class.

HOTEL ST. GERMAIN, 5TH-AV. AND Broadway, newly furnished throughout. First-class accommodations for families and single gentlemen; reasonable rates. W. M. G. TOMKINS, Proprietor.

NO. 23 EAST 4TH-ST.—(ONE BLOCK NEAST OF BROADWAY.)—Pleasant large and single rooms, with excellent table; terms reasonable. (Transient boarders taken.)

NO. 160 WEST 11TH-ST., NEAR 6TH-av.—Large front room, ample closets, hot and cold water and fire, with unexceptionable table board for man and wife, or two gentlemen.

FIFTH-AV., NO. 603.—FRONT PARLOR and bedroom, handsomely furnished, on second floor. Third floor back parlor and bedroom, with board.

GREAT HOTEL CENTRE.—BROADWAY, 25th and 26th sts., New-York. Sturtevant House, American plan, $3 50 per day, board and room. LEWIS & GEORGE S. LELAND, Proprietors.

NO. 59 WEST 35TH-ST.—TWO OR three large sunny rooms, with unexceptionable board; references exchanged.

NO. 18 WEST 34TH-ST., FOUR DOORS from Fifth-avenue Hotel, handsomely furnished rooms, with or without board; single or en suite.

PROPOSALS.

PROPOSALS FOR WRAPPING PAPER AND TWINE.
POST-OFFICE DEPARTMENT,
WASHINGTON, D. C., Dec. 22, 1871.
SEALED PROPOSALS will be received at this Department until the 24th day of January, 1872, at 12 o'clock, noon, for furnishing WRAPPING PAPER AND TWINE for the use of the Post-offices in the United States for one year from the 1st day of February, 1872, the said articles to be delivered, free of expense, to the Postmasters, at the Blank Agency of the Post-office Department, Washington, D. C.
First—Specimens of the proposed quality of each article required are to be furnished as follows:
12,000 reams of wrapping paper, 20 by 25 inches in size, and to weigh 40 pounds to the ream, each ream to contain 500 sheets, uniform in quality.
100 reams of Wrapping paper, 25 by 40 inches in size, and to weigh 60 pounds to the ream, each ream to contain 500 sheets, uniform in quality.
50,000 pounds of Twine, in balls, to weigh from one to two pounds each, to measure from 50 to 55 yards to the pound, to be 3 ply, and so bound as to prevent their becoming loose and tangled by transportation.
Samples of the paper and twine will be furnished on persons who may obtain the contract, on application to the First Assistant Postmaster-General, Washington, D. C.
More or less than the estimated quantities may be required, at the discretion of the Postmaster-General.
Bids for more than one article will be received, at the discretion of the Postmaster-General.
Bids will be received from persons who may be willing to furnish any one of the articles specified, with the best and most advantageous terms for each article separately if deemed most advantageous to the Department.
A failure to furnish promptly any article contracted for, on an attempt to impose upon the Department articles inferior to the specification of the Postmaster-General, to these specifications, will be considered sufficient cause for the forfeiture of the contract.
Bids not made in conformity with this advertisement will not be considered.
The Postmaster-General reserves the right to reject any or all bids if, in his opinion, it is required by the interests of the service.
Proposals must be addressed on the envelope "Proposals for Letter Envelopes," and directed to the First Assistant Postmaster-General, Washington, D. C.
JNO. A. J. CRESWELL,
Postmaster-General.

PROPOSALS FOR LETTER ENVELOPES.
POST-OFFICE DEPARTMENT,
WASHINGTON, D. C., Dec. 22, 1871.
Sealed Proposals will be received at this Department until the 24th day of January, 1872, at 12 noon, for furnishing envelopes for the use of the Post-offices in the United States for one year from and after the 1st day of February, 1872, of the following specifications:
First—Envelopes to be of weighing eight ounces, average size, to be graduated down to quarter ounce. Of this class 1,000 will be required.
Second—Envelopes of the same capacity, graduated by the metric system. Of this class 100 may be required.
Third—Envelopes of the weighing four pounds, average size, to be graduated to half ounces. Of this class 500 will be wanted.
Perfect uniformity and durability will be required in the articles furnished.
Samples of the various sizes of envelopes must accompany each proposal. Bidders who may obtain the contract will be required to furnish envelopes of a quality in accordance therewith.
Each envelope must be securely packed in a box for transportation, and delivered, free of all expense, to the Bank Agent, Washington, D. C.
Each bidder must accompany his proposal guarantees of his ability to comply with his bid, and a certificate from a Postmaster that such guarantors are reliable persons.
Bids without these guarantees will be required to be rejected.
Awards will be made for each article separately if deemed most advantageous to the Department.
Two sufficient sureties will be required in each contract.
A failure to furnish promptly any article contracted for, or an attempt to impose upon the Department articles inferior to the specification of the Postmaster-General, to these specifications, will be considered sufficient cause for the forfeiture of the contract.
The Postmaster-General reserves the right to reject any or all bids if, in his opinion, it is required by the interests of the service.
Proposals must be addressed on the envelope "Proposals for Letter Envelopes," and directed to the First Assistant Postmaster-General, Washington, D. C.
JNO. A. J. CRESWELL,
Postmaster-General.

COPARTNERSHIP NOTICES.

THE FIRM OF CLEVELAND & GOLDSMITH, who have been doing business at No. 11th Broadway, is dissolved by mutual consent, Mr. Goldsmith retiring. The business will be settled on by the remaining partner, and who will make all collections and receive accounts of the old firm.
MORRIS GOLDSMITH, No. 180 Broadway.

AMUSEMENTS.

ACADEMY—NILSSON—IL TROVATORE.
LAST NIGHT BUT ONE OF THE GREAT STAGIONE OF ITALIAN OPERA COMPANY, PRIOR to departure for Pittsburg and the West.
TOMORROW (Tuesday) EVENING, Dec. 26, AMOROSO'S ITALIAN OPERA COMPANY.
Mlle. CHRISTINA NILSSON (for the second time in New-York) as.....LEONORA
Miss ANNIE LOUISE CARY (for the second time in New-York) as.....AZUCENA
Signor F. BRIGNOLI (in his original creation in America of that role) as.....MANRICO
Signor BARTOLINI (his second appearance here) as.....COUNT DI LUNA
MAX MARETZEK, Musical Director and Conductor.
WEDNESDAY EVE., 27th—LA TRAVIATA.
FRIDAY, 29th, (last night)—MARTHA.
SATURDAY, Dec. 30, at 1½, doors open at 12½.
GRAND FAREWELL MATINEE—SIGNOR MIGNON.
Seats for all the above at the Academy; also at Nos. 701 and 714 Broadway.
THIS MONDAY, (Christmas Day,) the box-office will be open at the Academy from 9 A. M. till 2 P. M.

NIBLO'S GARDEN.
A MERRY CHRISTMAS.
TWO PERFORMANCES TOMORROW.
MATINEE AT 2; EVENING AT 8.
IMMENSE SUCCESS OF THE BLACK CROOK.
THE GREATEST DRAMATICAL SUCCESS OF THE SEASON. HOUSES CROWDED TO THE DOORS. FLOWING EVERY SCENE, APPLAUDED TO THE VERY ECHO. THE MARVELOUS MAGICIAN, SIGNOR PAUL TRIGLIERI, TROUPE OF ANIMALS, LIBERATI AND FORMAN, and a TROUPE OF ONE HUNDRED DANCERS.

NEW-YORK CIRCUS.
145th-st., opposite Academy of Music.
L. B. LENT.....DIRECTOR.
HOLIDAY MATINEE EVERY HOLIDAY AT 2½.
EVERY EVENING AT 8.
Super ATTRACTIONS for CHRISTMAS WEEK.
BRILLIANT SPECTACULAR SCENES, UNITED WITH THE CHARMS OF THE CIRCUS, BY M. SELVERS, MADEMOISELLE ROSE, AND ALL THE PERFECT PERFORMERS.
GORGEOUS HOLIDAY PANTOMIME OF GOODY TWO SHOES.
AND
THE GIANT OF

[illegible]

The Weather [illegible]

Weather-wise people predicted [illegible] day's cloudy and murky sky that Christmas Eve would bring, if not severe and bitter cold, at least blustering, stormy and disagreeable weather. These prophets, as often happens, were very far from the truth in their predictions. The temperature of yesterday proving a surprise to everybody. [illegible] 8 A. M. [illegible] the sun shone forth bright and glorious as on a day in early Spring. [illegible] efficient street-cleaners. The snow and slush of the past days had disappeared as if by magic. Pedestrians in light pants and thin boots could walk the streets with impunity, and the evening [illegible] and boot-blacks' opportunity was gone. At 1 o'clock the thermometer [illegible] and the barometer [illegible] and this being the hour of the closing of morning services, the streets and avenues were crowded with gayly-dressed people and brilliant equipages. [illegible] considered unseasonable three months hence. At 3 P. M. the thermometer was at 48°, and the barometer [illegible]. Central Park was probably visited by more people than on any previous day during the past month. The mall and the carriage-drive were brilliant [illegible] The lovers of skating were of course disappointed in their anticipations. They, like those people who love an old-fashioned Christmas, and always associate this holiday with sharp frost and heavy snow, will no doubt easily console themselves. The Brooklyn, Jersey and Hoboken ferry-boats were uncomfortably crowded during the whole day, the passage across the river being an agreeable sensation, the large blocks of floating ice having wholly disappeared. The Brooklyn [illegible] showed the same pleasing effects of the glorious day as our own, and Prospect Park was quite a centre of attraction. It was expected that the evening would bring a disagreeable change, but at 6 P. M. the thermometer indicated 45°, and the barometer 30.37, and at 9 P. M. the thermometer had only fallen five degrees, while the barometer was at 30.38. Many fears were expressed throughout the day that this unusual mildness might prove injurious to the public health, and that we will have to pay for the luxury by an increased bill of mortality. These fears will, no doubt, prove groundless, and a day of unexpected warmth and happiness will be troubled with no such disagreeable results.

The Dark Streets and the Police.

By direction of Superintendent KELSO, an extra [illegible] of patrolmen were turned out at [illegible] o'clock last evening, and were kept out until nearly 11 o'clock, in order to afford all possible protection to citizens when returning from church against the operations of pickpockets, who might seek to take advantage of the crowds about the church doors. Fortunately the night [illegible]

The Supposed Abortion Case.

Dr. JOHN BEACH, assisted by Dr. JOHN MCCARTHY, yesterday made a post-mortem examination of the remains of CATHARINE CAREY, who died at Bellevue Hospital, as was alleged, from the effects of an abortion. The deceased, who was about thirty years of age, had been taken to the hospital from the boarding-house No. 22 Pike-street, in convulsions, on Friday. The post-mortem developed no evidences of violence or abortion and the physicians decided that death had been caused by puerperal convulsions. Nothing whatever is known of the history of the deceased, as she was a stranger in the boarding-house from which she was taken, and Dr. BEACH directed her photograph to be taken as a means of identification, so that her friends may be discovered. Coroner HERRMAN will hold an inquest in the case.

Probable Murder in Twenty-fifth-street.

An affray occurred yesterday afternoon in front of HORRMAN's liquor saloon, No. 338 West Twenty-fifth-street, which will probably end in the death of one of the participants. [illegible]

Excise Arrests.

Capt. [illegible] of the Twenty-eighth Precinct, had eleven retail liquor dealers arrested [illegible] violating the Excise law [illegible] James Colgar, No. 308 Spring-street; Alex. Mc[illegible], No. 303 Hudson-street; Wm. O'Donnell, No. 190 Varick-street; Robt. Harrison, No. 87 Macdougal-street; P. McKenna, No. 173 Varick-street; John McDonnell, No. 35 Varick-street.

Brutal Assault on a Wife.

Yesterday afternoon PATRICK DOYLE brutally attacked his wife ANN, at their house, No. 333 West Nineteenth-street, breaking her collar-bone and inflicting several severe wounds upon her head. But for the interference of neighbors, the woman would probably have been murdered, but she was finally rescued from her husband and taken to Bellevue Hospital in a critical condition. DOYLE was arrested and locked up in the Sixteenth Precinct Station-house.

BROOKLYN NEWS.

Dedication of a Beautiful Church.

The Ross-street Presbyterian Church, one of the most beautiful and commodious church edifices in Brooklyn, E. D., was formally dedicated yesterday. Three services were held during the day, in which the following clergymen of the Nassau Presbytery took part: Rev. Charles S. Pomeroy, pastor; Rev. Joseph T. Duryea, D. D., and Rev. E. S. Porter, D. D., of the Reformed Church; Rev. J. A. M. Chapman, D. D., of the Methodist Episcopal; Rev. J. Hyatt Smith, Baptist; Rev. John Henry Brodt, Congregational. The church edifice, which is [illegible] persons. It is a model of architectural beauty.

Robberies and Burglaries.

Some bold thief succeeded in stealing a [illegible] from one of Westcott's Express wagons yesterday afternoon and carried off its contents.

The grocery-store of H. BREMER, No. 1,300 Fulton-avenue, was entered early on Sunday morning by burglars, who pried off the back hall door, and stole five bottles of brandy, valued at $10; one box of cigars, $6; and $7 in currency.

The residence of WALTER A. HARRIS, in Dean-street, near Broadway, was entered by burglars on Sunday morning, through a front window, which had been left unfastened. They stole wearing apparel to the value of $200.

[illegible] was arrested on Saturday evening by [illegible] CONRADY, who accused him of stealing a watch valued at $20. The [illegible] returned the watch, and as CONRADY did not press the charge he was released.

Fatally Burned with Kerosene.

Yesterday afternoon, while ANN ELIZA NICHOLS, residing at No. 689 Third-avenue, was dusting off a mantel-piece, she knocked a kerosene-lamp upon the stove, when it exploded, setting her clothes on fire and burning her in a shocking manner. She was attended by physicians, who pronounced her injuries to be of such a character that she cannot survive them.

Brief Items.

The public schools of Brooklyn will be closed until the second week in January in pursuance of orders by the Board of Education, [illegible] Holiday season.

Last evening, about 5 o'clock, as MARGARET WALSH, residing at No. 350 Pacific-street, was lighting a kerosene lamp it exploded, burning her clothing and her face and hands. [illegible] while endeavoring to extinguish the flames, had his face and hands severely burned.

Last evening some burglars entered the apartments of Mrs. MYERS, on the second floor of No. 74 Poplar-street, during her temporary [illegible]

[illegible] They left a kerosene lamp burning under the bed, and when Mrs. MYERS returned the bed was on fire, but the flames were extinguished with but trifling damage.

The Hunter's Point School Case—The Holy Bible to be Read in the School.

On Thursday the Trustees of the Hunter's Point School served on Mr. [illegible], the Principal, a notification that the public school premises, building and property should be no longer used or occupied during school hours for the purpose of religious exercises, practices, instructions, reading of the scriptures, or recitation of religious prayers. The notification was signed by JOSEPH FRIEND, Secretary of the Board of Trustees. In the absence of the Principal a copy was also read to the teachers in the school. The Trustees claim that they have authority over the building, and although they have not the power to decide on the regulations of the school, which is vested in the Commissioners, they have the right to close the school building, and shall certainly do so, unless the reading of the Bible is discontinued. After the serving of the notice on Thursday, Mr. FRIEND attended the school during the morning exercises, and was present at the reading of the Scriptures by the Principal, notwithstanding the notification, and on Friday another Trustee attended with him for the purpose of witnessing the disobedience of orders.

The Board of Commissioners deny the right of the Trustees to interfere in any way either with the school discipline or property. They say that the charter especially provides for the duties of both Boards, and that the duties of the Trustees are limited to the financial matters of the district. [illegible] to continue the reading of the Bible as usual. The document has been passed over to Corporation-Attorney [illegible], and in all probability action will be commenced against the Trustees for interfering in the duties of the schools. The Catholic population are very bitter against Mr. [illegible], as they claim that he broke faith with them [illegible] Although there have been no open hostilities during the past week, the feeling among the parents and the residents of Long Island City is more intense than ever. It is understood and reported that the question is to be fought out in this school, and that material aid will be furnished them from other parts of the country if necessary. There will be no school during the Holiday week, but hostilities will probably commence on reassembling after the 1st of January.

LOCAL NEWS IN BRIEF.

NEW-YORK.

Mlle. NILSSON's insane adorer has been sent to a lunatic asylum.

The Bloomingdale Turnverein gave its eighteenth annual ball last night at Muessiger Hall in West Thirty-second-street.

The Turnverein of the west side, which is located in Spring-street, last evening elected its officers for the ensuing six months.

JOHN OGDEN, aged seventy-five years, died suddenly at his residence, No. 34 East Ninth-street, last night. Coroner HERRMAN will hold an inquest in the case.

We are indebted to Capt. WINZEN, of the Hamburg steam-ship Cimbria, and to Capt. LEMARIE, of the French steamer St. Laurent, for liberal additions to our foreign files.

HIRAM COLWELL, sixty-eight years of age, Saturday night fell down the hatchway of No. [illegible] East Twenty-fourth-street, and was fatally injured. He was taken to Bellevue Hospital.

The first fire reported from the use of candles [illegible] occurred last night at No. 325 West Thirty-ninth-street. The curtains of a bed caught fire, causing a damage of $300.

The Cosmopolitan Conference held their usual weekly meeting yesterday afternoon at the hall corner of Bowery and Bleecker-street. Mrs. SHEPPARD delivered an address on co-operation.

MARY SMITH, aged seventy, died at Bellevue Hospital yesterday from burns received on the 21st inst., at her residence, No. 523 West Twenty-eighth-street, by her clothes taking fire from a stove.

BRIDGET BLAKE died yesterday from injuries received by falling down stairs at her residence, No. 14 Hubert-street. Coroner HERRMAN held an inquest, and a verdict of accidental death was rendered.

An affray occurred Saturday night in Harlem, during which MICHAEL MAHONEY stabbed WM. GRIMES, and inflicted a serious wound. MAHONEY was arrested and locked up in the Twelfth Precinct Station-house.

The twenty-fifth annual Convention of the fraternity of Delta Psi will be held at the hall of the Alpha Chapter, at No. 830 Broadway, on Thursday and Friday, Dec. 28 and 29, 1871. There will be a supper on Friday at Delmonico's.

JOHN WERPUPEL, a native of Belgium, [illegible] years of age, who lives at No. 11 [illegible]-street, yesterday fell into the cellar of No. 64 Centre-street, the shock causing a concussion of the spine. He was removed to Park Hospital.

JOHN SULLIVAN, alias the "Kid," of No. 81 Mulberry-street, yesterday morning assaulted JOHN OGDEN, of No. 185 Oak-street, while he was standing in front of No. 12 Baxter-street, and stabbed him in the side, inflicting a serious wound. SULLIVAN was arrested and locked up.

The German Twenty-first Ward Organization has reconstructed as the Reform Association for the Eighteenth Assembly District, and has [illegible]

[illegible]

Some excitement was caused yesterday in St. Stephen's Church, in Twenty-eighth-street, near Third-avenue, by the conduct of JOHN KILLIAN, an insane man, who lives at No. 1,417 Broadway. He was removed by Officer [illegible], of the Twenty-first Precinct, to the Station-house, where he was examined by a surgeon, who ordered him to be taken to Bellevue Hospital.

The American Geographical Society will hold its regular monthly meeting, to-morrow evening, in the rooms of the Cooper Institute. Prof. EDWARD FONTAINE will read a paper on the peculiarities of the Mississippi River and its delta formation, its influence upon climate and productions, its ancient connection with Lake Michigan, and its peculiarities in scenery, fauna and flora.

A post-mortem examination made yesterday, at Bellevue Hospital, by Dr. JOHN BEACH, in the case of MARY FARRELL, showed that death was probably due to alcoholism. Deceased had been taken to the Ninth Precinct Station-house from a stable. There were no signs that she had been subjected to any ill-usage. An inquest will be held by Coroner HERRMAN.

The Union Home for the Orphans of Soldiers and Sailors is suffering for want of funds. It is a most deserving charity, and ought to be supported. Subscriptions can be sent to Mrs. Admiral FARRAGUT, No. 113 East Thirty-sixth-street; Mrs. Judge DALY, No. 84 Clinton-place; Mrs. D. HOYT, No. 129 East Forty-sixth-street, the Home itself, at One Hundred and Fifty-first-street and Tenth-avenue.

A fire occurred yesterday morning on the fourth floor of No. 11 Eldridge-street, doing a damage of $1,000 to the stock of JOHN [illegible], lounge-maker. The stock of W. A. [illegible], cabinet-maker, third floor, was damaged $500; that of BOGERT & BROS., segar-boxes, on the second floor, $200, and that of GEO. [illegible], carpenter, on the first floor, $100. The building, which is owned by P. WILLIAMS, will require $500 for repairs.

LONG ISLAND.

Six burglaries were committed at Jamaica last week, and from the manner in which entrances were gained into the houses, it is supposed that professional cracksmen did the business.

An indignation meeting was held at Baldwinsville, Saturday night, by citizens opposed to the carrying out of the present Oyster law, which they claim gives the business of oystering into the hands of monopolists, and that the poor man are ignored.

A little boy, scholar at Mr. WAKEMAN's school, at Hawlains, fell and broke his leg a few days ago. The fracture was not discovered for several days, when the leg was so badly swollen that it was with difficulty set, and fears are entertained that the little fellow will be disabled for life.

The following officers of the Astoria Young Men's Christian Association have been elected for next year: President, CHAS. C. OVERTON; Vice-President, GARRITT SMITH; Recording Secretary, JOHN B. MOORE; Corresponding Secretary, FRANK A. SMITH; Treasurer, WILLIAM CROUTHERS.

The small-pox has broken out in Whitestone, and during the past week a number of cases have been reported. It is thought the disease was brought into the village by an English emigrant lately arrived from Castle Garden. The cases are all isolated and under the charge of the Health Officer of the town of Flushing.

A Reform Club has been organized in Newtown village. THOMAS WARREN is the President and G. J. GARRETSON Secretary. This Club will act with the one formed at East Williamsburg in the same township. A committee of seventeen of the first citizens of the village were appointed to investigate in detail the Justice and Constable's bills of Newtown.

While Mr. CHAUNCY SPRAGUE was oystering on Long Creek, Thursday, he was shot by Mr. STEPHEN CARMAN, who was hunting. SPRAGUE was dressed in a rubber suit, and was [illegible]

[illegible] claim that the shooting was accidental, but it is unfortunate that the men have taken different sides on the exciting oyster question of the locality.

The Lorillard Steam-ship Company are building a new boat at Gowanus which is to be the pioneer on a new route from Bridgeport, Conn., to Port Jefferson, Long Island. The name of the boat will be the Brookhaven, and in addition to the passenger accommodations will be fitted up for freight. One trip daily will be run each way. Capt. WM. TEARSON will command the boat.

STATEN ISLAND.

The snow has entirely disappeared on the hills about Staten Island.

Mr. BERGH's agents in Richmond County killed five broken-down horses last week.

NEW-JERSEY.

The Philadelphia and Trenton Railroad Company announce a semi-annual dividend of seven per cent., payable on the 2d proximo.

The divinity students of the Theological Seminary in New-Brunswick preached in the school-houses, almshouses, hospitals and prisons in and near New-Brunswick yesterday.

GEORGE W. EDWARDS, the Jamesburg bank robber, whose rescue was attempted at New-Brunswick last Sunday night, has pleaded not guilty to the indictment charging him with robbery.

FOREIGN MARKETS.

LONDON, Dec. 23—11½ A. M.—Consols opened at 92⅝ for both money and the account. United States 5-20 Bonds, 1862, 92¼; 1865, old, 92¼; 1867, 93¼; 10-40s, 91¼.

2 P. M.—Consols closed at 92⅝ for money, and 92¾ for the account. United States 5-20 Bonds, 1862, 92¼; 1865, old, 92¼; 1867, 93¼; 10-40s, 91¼.

FRANKFORT, Dec. 23—[illegible] P. M.—United States 5-20 Bonds opened at [illegible] for the issue of 1862.

PARIS, Dec. 23—[illegible] P. M.—Rentes closed at 55f. 60c.

LIVERPOOL, Dec. 23—10½ A. M.—COTTON—The market opened steady; Middling Uplands, 9¾d.@10d.; Middling Orleans, 10¼d. The sales of the day are estimated at 10,000 bales.

1 P. M.—COTTON—The market closed steady; Middling Uplands, 9¾d.@10d.; Middling Orleans, 10¼d. The sales of the day have been 10,000 bales, including 2,000 bales for speculation and export. The shipments of Cotton from Bombay since the last report to the [illegible] inst. have been 15,000 bales. Cheese, 60s. ℔ cwt. for the best grades of American fine.

LONDON, Dec. 23—Evening.—Fine Rosin irregular at 16s. ℔ cwt.

HAVANA, Dec. 23.—SUGAR—Stock in warehouses at Havana and Matanzas, 38,[illegible] boxes and [illegible] hhds. Exported during the week from Havana and Matanzas, 12,675 boxes and 30 hhds., of which 12,000 boxes and all the hogsheads were to the United States. Market quiet, buyers are indisposed to grant the prices asked for old stock, owing to the arrival of new Sugar; large planters continue to curtail contracts; No. 10 to No. 12 Dutch Standard, [illegible] reals; Nos. 15 to 20 Dutch Standard, [illegible] reals; Molasses Sugar, [illegible] reals for No. 8 to No. 10, on contracts; Muscovado Sugar, fair to good Refining, [illegible] reals. BACON flat and BUTTER active; superior American, [illegible]. FLOUR, [illegible] for American. HAMS—American Salted, [illegible]; American Sugar-cured, [illegible]. LARD nominal; kegs, [illegible]; owing to the combination of the importers of Lard, the sales are no longer made public. POTATOES firm at [illegible]. TALLOW, [illegible]. WAX quiet; Yellow, [illegible]; White, [illegible]. HERRING active at [illegible]. ONIONS firm at [illegible]. COAL-OIL quiet; in tins, [illegible] reals. TURPENTINE, [illegible]. LUMBER nominal; White Pine, [illegible]; Pitch Pine in fair demand at [illegible].

SHOOKS—Box quiet; Old Drying, 5 reals; New, [illegible] reals; Hogshead Shooks firmer at [illegible] reals. TOBACCO—Demand good at full prices; sales of the week, [illegible] bales, mostly for the United States. American buyers are unable to obtain fillers alone, and are compelled to take entire plantations. The new crop has commenced to arrive, and it is expected that it will be numerous. FREIGHTS—Vessels in demand for the United States, but the business is small owing to the [illegible]. [illegible] ℔ box of Sugar, to Northern and Southern ports in the United States, $1.[illegible]; ℔ hhd. of Sugar to Northern and Southern ports in the United States, $[illegible]. EXCHANGE—On the United States, firmer; Currency, sixty days, [illegible] premium; do. short sight, [illegible] premium; Gold, sixty days, [illegible] premium; do. short sight, [illegible] premium.

[Advertisement.]

"Diseases of the Lungs benefited by using Cod Liver Oil." HAZARD & CASWELL'S COD LIVER OIL is so pure and sweet, patients soon become fond of it.

[Advertisement.]

GOV. MERRILL ON THE MARION WATCHES.

Messrs. Giles, Bro. & Co., Chicago, Ill.:

I take pleasure in saying that the watch I bought of you, being No. [illegible], "Frances Rubens, Marion, N. J.," made by the United States Watch Company, (GILES, WALES & CO.,) has given perfect satisfaction—its variation from mean time since regulated being scarcely perceptible.

SAM'L MERRILL, Governor of Iowa.

[Advertisement.]

JULES JURGENSEN WATCHES.—The most reliable time-keeper in use. Key-winders, Stem-winders, Repeaters indicating one-fourth and one-fifth seconds. A large assortment. THOMAS KIRKPATRICK, No. 305 Broadway, corner Duane-street.

[Advertisement.]

COLORIFIC colors hair magnificent, glossy, and natural; you can apply it in five minutes; best and cheapest; try it. No. 5 Dey-street, and all druggists.

[Advertisement.]

Use HITCHCOCK'S ARNICA SALVE. Cures corns, bunions, boils, sores, &c. Sold by all druggists.

Movements of Ocean Steamers.

FOR EUROPE.

Cimbria	Dec. 2[illegible]	New-York	Hamburg.
Cuba	Dec. 27	New-York	Liverpool.
Wyoming	Dec. 27	New-York	Liverpool.
City of Baltimore	Dec. 30	New-York	Liverpool.
St. Laurent	Dec. 30	New-York	Havre.
Italy	Dec. 30	New-York	Liverpool.
Europa	Dec. 30	New-York	Glasgow.
America	Dec. 30	New-York	Bremen.

FOR HAVANA AND ASPINWALL.

[illegible]	Dec. 28	New-York	Havana.
Henry Chauncey	Dec. 30	New-York	Aspinwall.

Closing of Domestic Mails.

North, Poughkeepsie Way	5 A. M.	1 P. M.
North, through via H. R. R. R. and New-York Central	5 A. M.	[illegible] P. M.
North, via Harlem R. R.	5 A. M.	[illegible] P. M.
East, via New-Haven	5 A. M.	[illegible] P. M.
East, via Newport	[illegible]	[illegible]
East, New-Haven Way	5 A. M.	[illegible] P. M.
East, Fall River, rail	5 P. M.	
South, through	7 A. M.	[illegible] P. M.
Philadelphia Way	[illegible]	[illegible] P. M.
West Mail, through to Harrisburg, Pittsburg, Cincinnati, St. Louis, Louisville, Indianapolis, Columbus, Chicago, St. Paul, St. Joseph, Salt Lake and Denver	7 A. M.	[illegible] P. M.
West Mail, through to Cleveland, Toledo, and by A. and G. Western R. R. to Franklin and Meadville, Penn., &c.	5 A. M.	[illegible] P. M.

Passengers Arrived.

DEC. 24—In steam-ship St. Laurent, from Havre—Mr. and 2 Misses Kendall, Mr. Bosil, Mr. Delrue, Mr. and Mrs. de Sousa Lobo and servant, Miss Blake, Mr. Kohan, Mr. Mango, Mr. Moore, Mr. Busse, Mr. Weyer, Miss Burtsell, Miss Howe, Mr. Hinchmann, Mr. Allien, Mrs. and Miss Jacoby, Mr. Oehminger, Mr. Lacoste, Mr. Thuros, Mr. Champurier, Miss Deviscle, Mr. and Mme. Legendre, Mr. and Miss Jardinier, Mr. Galiot, Miss Hermann, Mr. Gegout, Mrs. Varin, Miss Thiriot, Mr. Fouchere, Mr. Mendes, Mr. Seal-avent, Miss Bach, Miss Halleux, Miss Brunn, Mrs. Loiseau, Mr. Forjon, Mr. Gannel, Mr. Renard, Mr. Magne, Mr. Martin, M. M. J. and F. Bahn, Mr. Stasel, Mr., Mrs. and Miss F. Gund and 2 children, Mr. Bestier, Mr. Blanc, Mr. and Mrs. Wochstedeler, Mr. F. Wochstedeler, Mrs. Nower, Mr. and Mrs. Gibson and 4 children, Mrs. Stauffer, M. M. M. and C. Baumgartner, Mr. Kemp, M. M. Hagen, Mr. Lacourt, Mr. Tobin, Mr. and Miss Fries, Mr. Bedeville, Mr. Pourchate, Mr. Renaud, Mr. Leroux, Mr. Stiferien, Mr. and Mrs. Wezel, Mr. Arnold, Mr. Michaelis, Mr. Martial, Mr. and Mrs. Artiguen, Mr. Cornille, Mr. and Miss Beaudon, Mr. Costier, Mr. Beaussir, M. M. Goufien, Mrs. L. Goufien, Mrs. H. Goufien, Mrs. Levy, Mr. Seiss, Mr. Roches, Mr. Berney, Mrs. Beday, Mr. Fichmann, Mr. Delange and child, Mr. Blum, Miss Schneider, Mr. and Mrs. Tourne, Mr. Scholand, Mr. Bourg, Mr. Gayson, Mr. Scirmaglio, Mr. Bartelli, Mr. Pasini, Mr. Condert, Mr. Faller, Mr. Delfee, Mr. Wentworth, Mr. Schorb, Mr. Rallesh, Mr. Block.

In steam-ship Gen. Barnes, from Savannah—M. Cavanagh, J. A. Sexton, Richard Sexton, Frank Davis, H. Schumann, R. H. Golding, Mr. Casey and wife, John B. Sapp, John Grady, H. H. Gatewhiteyes, Dr. A. W. Vaughan, H. G. Hollingshead, E. Stewart, Mrs. Mary Mc. Gowan, Miss F. Lee, Miss M. Lee, and 4 steerage.

MINIATURE ALMANAC—THIS DAY.

Sun rises	7:23	Sun sets	4:35	Moon sets	6:15

HIGH WATER—THIS DAY.

Sandy Hook	3:22	Gov. Island	4:11	Hell Gate	6:30

MARINE INTELLIGENCE.

NEW-YORK....SUNDAY, Dec. 24.

Arrived.

Steam-ship St. Laurent, (Fr.,) Lemarie, Havre Dec. 7, via Brest 10th, at 1 A. M., with mdse. and 127 passengers to Geo. Mackenzie. Experienced very heavy head sea, and strong Westerly gales during the whole trip; arrived at Sandy Hook, Saturday, 23d, at 9 A. M. and detained there by the fog.

Steam-ship Hansa, (N. G.,) Brickenstein, Bremen Nov. 29, Southampton 29th and St. Johns, N. F., Dec. 15, at 1 P. M., with mdse. and passengers to Oelrichs & Co.

Steam-ship General Barnes, Mallory, Savannah Dec. 21, with mdse. and passengers to Livingston, Fox & Co.

Steam-ship E. C. Knight, Johnson, Georgetown, D. C., with mdse. and passengers to George B. Merrick.

Steam-ship Geo. Washington, Gager, New-Orleans Dec. 17, and the bar 18th, with mdse. and passengers to H. B. Cromwell & Co.

Steam-ship Perele, (Br.,) Williams, Naples Nov. 11, Messina 16th, Palermo 18th, Valencia 23th and Gibraltar 28th, with fruit, &c., to Henderson Bros.

Ship Daniel Webster, Browne, London 49 ds., with mdse. to E. E. Morgan's sons.

Ship Rhine, Jordan, London Oct. 28, with mdse. to Grinnell, Minturn & Co.

Ship Agnes, Tisdale, of and from Singapore June 30, Padang Aug. 12, via Boston Dec. 15, with mdse. to F. Baker. Is anchored on the Bar.

Bark Carnarvon Castle, (of Liverpool,) Larry, Manila July 18, with mdse. to Wesson & Grap—vessel to order. Nov. 8, lat. 1 12 S., lon. 30 20 W., spoke ship Yotteys, (Br.,) from Liverpool, for Bombay; Oct. 6, Robert Hughes, seaman, a native of Anglesey, aged 24 years, died of consumption, and was buried at sea; Dec. 6, George Sedgwick, seaman, a native of Liverpool, Eng., aged 21 years, died of consumption, and buried at sea.

Bark Lizzie Williams, (of San Francisco,) Hall, Boston 7 ds., with mdse. to Sturges & Co.

Bark Moland, (Norw.,) Tallaksen, Rotterdam 60 ds., with mdse. to Funch, Edye & Co. Took the south passage, and had fine weather up to lat. 32, lon. 72, from thence strong N. W. gales, with much snow; [illegible]

[illegible] 34 lon. 68, spoke bark City of Bangor, for Boston, from Galles, [illegible] Hamburg, [illegible] from Hamburg, [illegible] for New-York. [illegible] Sandy Hook.

Bark Jenny, (N. G.,) Wiericks, Bremen 48 ds., with mdse. to Funch, Edye & Co. Took the northern passage, and had strong N. W. gales.

Bark Adelina S., (Ital.,) Musso, Glasgow 78 ds., with coal to Napier & Co. Dec. 21, lat. 40, lon. 72 9, spoke schr. Gertrude Plummer, from New-London, for Havana.

Bark Maria Augusta, (Swed.,) Boden, Havre 58 ds., with mdse. to Boyd & Hincken.

Bark Patriot, (of Aberystwith,) Thomas, Mossel Bay, C. G. H., 70 ds., with wool and skins to Buchanan Brothers—vessel to George F. Bulley.

Brig Clara J. Adams, (Br.,) McFadden, Havana 17 ds., with sugar to order—vessel to Jed. Frye & Co.

Schr. Annie Martha, (Br.,) Weeks, St. John, N. B., with lumber.

BELOW—3 ships, 7 barks and 17 brigs inside the Bar, and several other square-rigged vessels outside Bar bound in.

WIND—Sunset, light, S. E., clear.

By Telegraph.

BOSTON, Dec. 24.—Arr., steamer George Appold, bark Zenhyrina, from Demerara; bark Isabella Beauman, from Surinam.

Below, at anchor off Cohasset, schr. Rulaski, from Rockland, with loss of main boom.

CHARLESTON, S. C., Dec. 24.—Arr. schr. E. A. De Hart, from Baracoa.

SAVANNAH, Ga., Dec. 24.—Arr. ships Kalas, from Barrow; Anna Belle, from Liverpool; Forest Chief, from Dublin; Handon, from Glasgow; Celestial, from Liverpool. Barks Fanny J. M. McLellan, from Havre; Virgin de Carmen, from Matanzas; Rafael Pomar, from Matanzas. Brigs Joseph, from Cienfuegos; and Ingle Foster, from Havana. Schr. L. C. C. Wishart, from Baltimore.

Below—Two ships, two barks, and two schooners.

Disasters.

LONG BRANCH, N. J., Dec. 24.—Came ashore last night, brig Mary C. Rosevelt, from Richmond, Me., bound for Savannah; no cargo. Also, on Deal Beach, the Norwegian brig Victoria, from Liverpool, for New-York, with a cargo of salt. The former will be got off, but the latter will probably be a total loss. No lives were lost.

An unknown brig is ashore off Sea Bright, N. J., near Long Branch.

OPEN EVENINGS.

BRACELETS.

HALL, BLACK & CO.,

NOS. 565 AND 567 BROADWAY.

LOBDELL & TINSLEY,

CLOTHIERS,

ARE MAKING A DEDUCTION OF

10 PER CENT.

FROM MARKED PRICES ON ALL CASH SALES.

NO. 1,180 BROADWAY, CORNER 28TH-ST.

HOLIDAY PRESENTS.

J. SENGER, Importer,

No. 21 Murray-st., near Broadway, has on exhibition and offers for sale for the coming Holidays, at retail,

AND AT VERY REDUCED PRICES, the greatest NOVELTIES of MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS and MUSICAL SURPRISE ARTICLES, consisting of MUSICAL BOXES, MUSICAL ALBUMS, LADIES' WORK-BOXES, CIGAR CASES, WINE BOTTLES, SWISS COTTAGES, ALL WITH TWO OR THREE PIECES OF MUSIC, and the largest VARIETY of GERMAN ACCORDIONS, CONCERTINAS and MOUTH-HARMONICAS.

HOWARD & CO.,

JEWELERS, NO. 865 BROADWAY.

Will be open on

CHRISTMAS MORNING.

James Anthony Froude, Sir Robert Lytton, Fritz Reuter, George MacDonald, Miss Thackeray, Frances Power Cobbe, Mrs. Mulock Craik, Julia Kavanagh, Arthur Helps, C. Kingsley, Matthew Arnold, Prof. Huxley, Duke of Argyll, Prime Minister Gladstone, are a few of the distinguished authors represented in the pages of

LITTELL'S LIVING AGE.

During the year 1871.

The first weekly number of January, 1872, which begins a new volume, contains articles by an ARRAY OF EMINENT WRITERS, as follows:

"A Persian Passion Play," by Matthew Arnold.

"The Neap Reef," by the author of "Dorothy Fox."

"Philosophy of Mythology," by Max Muller.

"Story of the Plebiscite," Part I., by Erckmann-Chatrian.

"The Last Tournament," by Tennyson.

Together with an instalment of a very remarkable story, "The Maid of Sker," which has excited unusual attention in England; and shorter articles, poetry, &c.

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CONDITION OF THE

ANDES, AMAZON AND TRIUMPH Insurance Companies,

As audited by the following Insurance Departments:

Audit by New-York Insurance Department, S. E. Sickles, Examiner, Dec. 12, 13 and 14, 1871:

AUDIT OF

Andes Insurance Company.

Chicago Losses Paid up to Dec. 15, 1871	$626,810 41
Other Losses paid from Jan. 1, 1871, to Dec. 1, 1871	582,951 44
Total	$1,209,761 85

Total Assets Dec. 15, 1871, after Payment of above Losses.

Cash on hand, in bank and in transit	$404,823 58
Bonds, U. S., State, City and County, market value	390,560 69
Collateral Loans and Accrued Interest	126,500 00
First Mortgage Bonds	462,819 53
Bills Receivable, and Second and Third Assessment Notes, (First Paid)	389,420 55
Book Accounts, Premiums and Agency Balances	116,974 15
Railroad Bonds and other Investments	91,215 00
Total	$1,982,312 46

LIABILITIES.

Losses in process of adjustment and all other Liabilities, including Chicago	$398,365 00
Net Assets Dec 15, 1861!	$1,583,947 46

Funds separate and distinct from Amazon and Triumph Insurance Companies.

AUDIT OF

Amazon Insurance Company,

SAME TIME AND PARTY.

Capital all paid in Oct. 1, 1871	$500,000 00

NO CHICAGO LOSSES.

First Agency Appointed Oct. 12, 1871.

Gross Surplus above Capital for 60 days' business	$232,982 55

ASSETS.

Cash on hand, in Bank and in hands of Agents		$331,087 30
First Mortgages on Ohio Property, worth twice the amount loaned		305,806 67
United States Bonds, market value		60,732 10
Accrued Interest, not yet due		10,549 27
Bills Receivable (notes taken for Hull premiums)		16,317 75
Office Furniture, Iron Safes, Desks, Cases, new and permanent Office Fixtures		7,889 36
Total Assets		$732,982 55

LIABILITIES.

Losses—Fire—Adjusted and not paid—None.		
Losses—Fire—In process of adjustment	28,000 19	
Inland and Marine, adjusted and not paid—None.		
Inland and Marine, in process of adjustment	2,983 00	
All other liabilities, not exceeding	10,000 00	41,959 19
Net Assets		$691,023 36

Funds separate and distinct from Andes or Triumph Insurance Companies.

AUDIT OF

Triumph Insurance Company,

SAME TIME AND PARTY.

Capital all paid in Oct. 1, 1871	$500,000 00

NO CHICAGO LOSSES.

First Agency Appointed Oct. 12, 1871.

Gross Surplus above Capital for 60 days' business	234,085 00

ASSETS.

Cash on hand, in Bank, and in hands of Agents		$351,306 47
First Mortgages on Ohio Property, worth twice the amount loaned		306,836 67
United States Bonds—Market Value		52,300 87
Accrued Interest—Not yet due		9,070 53
Bills Receivable, (Notes for Hull Premiums)		17,188 00
Office Furniture, Iron Safes, Desks, Cases, New and Permanent Office Fixtures		8,343 47
Total Assets		$734,085 00

LIABILITIES.

Losses—Fire—Adjusted and not Paid—None.		
Losses—Fire—In Process of Adjustment	$15,816 87	
Inland and Marine—Adjusted and Not Paid—None.		
Inland in Process of Adjustment	10,770 13	
All Other Liabilities not Exceeding	10,000 00	36,587 00
Net Assets		$697,498 00

Funds separate and distinct from Andes and Amazon Insurance Companies.

Net Assets Andes, Amazon and Triumph Insurance Companies, Dec. 15, 1871,

$2,972,448 82.

JAMES H. GODMAN, State Auditor of Ohio, has also personally examined the condition of these Companies, devoting almost a week's time to such duty.

GEORGE W. SARGENT, Attorney for Massachusetts Insurance Department, has likewise personally examined the condition of these Companies since the Chicago fire.

On account of the public distrust of insurance companies, arising from the Chicago fire and gross calumnies and detractions circulated by a spirited opposition, the above facts are published.

J. B. BENNETT, President.

J. H. BEATTIE, Secretary Andes.

B. D. WEST, Secretary Amazon and Triumph.

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Agents Andes and Triumph.

C. W. STAUDART & CO.,

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